

# ILLUSTRATED TIMES

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## THE COMING DISSOLUTION.

We resume, as we promised, the great question of the day—the duties of electors in the coming struggle. We hope we may get a hearing among those who all over England are now organising committees, weighing addresses, and sorely bewildered what to do. At all events, we are conscious of a sincere wish to help them—without any factious motives whatever.

First and foremost, it is not a Chinese question after all. The Palmerstonians want to go to the country on Peace or War—retreat or vigour. But we shall not limit it to a question for the passions only. Make it that, and the Premier carries all before him. He came well out of the Russian war; he is fresh and bold. The world is still under a little of the old heat—an honourable heat too—which makes people touchy about England's triumphs. So, in a question of our honour, the man who is for war just now is strong. But really this excitement about the Chinese affair is a little overdone. Poor grotesque, bombastic devils, with their pompous proclamations and wooden guns: do not let us make such a fuss about them. Their country is torn by civil war; our trade is of vast importance to a people so industrious; they will give in, and make concessions. This will happen whoever is in power, and in pretty much the same kind of way. The sooner it happens the better, for we began roughly enough. But our present question in England is not to get a Parliament that will settle Yeb, but a Parliament that will settle some scores of great questions, and determine our fate these six years. Why, then, insist on a violent anti-Chinese man for your member? No assumption easier, and nothing like a goodery against "foreigners" for a mob; but does that involve a policy?

It is not true that Palmerston was beaten on mere party grounds. That theory does not explain the combination against him. Cobden has no personal gain to expect from a change of Ministry; nor the Radicals generally who voted his way. The Conservatives have been urging pacific measures for years past, and were not inconsistent in condemning the sudden assault on Canton. Indeed, when the news of the bombardment first arrived, the "Times" was against it too; nor did it see its error till the Ministry began to be threatened. Lord John's part is less easy to justify in the matter; but a man has sometimes reasons for snubbing his old

friends. He and Palmerston have played these matches before, and one cannot be surprised at it. But after all, it was strongly felt that the Ministry wanted stimulating, if only to keep it to a policy. They were demanding immense sums of money, and holding out no prospect of more economic days. They were weak in debaters, which no Ministry can long be under our Constitution. In short—even apart from the Chinese question on which our readers know our views—

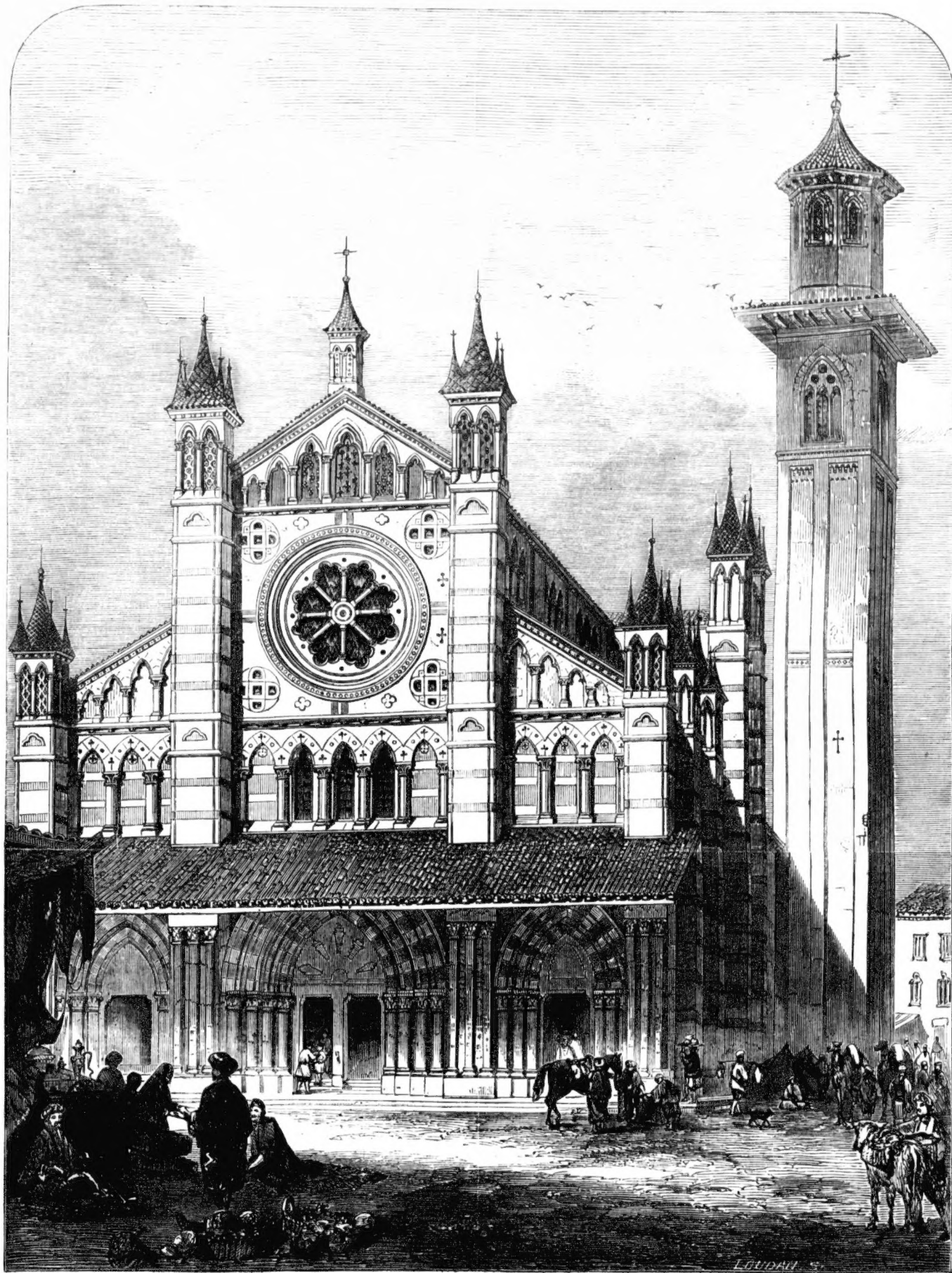
influence of belief in individuals; and we remember that the national spirits certainly rose when he came into power—so mean point alone. But it is not enough to get out of your candidate that he is "for Palmerston," because at present it is so difficult to understand what Palmerston is for himself. This would matter less, if one could leave one's-self in his hands altogether, with a light heart, to be guided anyhow at his pleasure. But he is not the kind of helmsman during

whose "trick at the helm" you can safely go to sleep. His dexterity in steering is admirable; and there is a kind of pleasure in sharing the excitement with him when your common object is known to both. But once go off into a nap, leaving him steering the bark, and you are awakened by a volley of curses in every variety of language. He has been crossing the bows of a French steamer,—or shaving a Neapolitan frigate,—or running down a Chinese lorcha! Now this is very unpleasant—especially if (to complete a somewhat long-winded allegory) your vessel all the while has been wanting internal repairs, which might have better occupied you. The country, in all seriousness, demands essential reforms—the criminal reform, for instance, on which we were all so hot the other day; educational measures; and so on *ad infinitum*. Yet there has been a marked tendency in Lord Palmerston's time to divert the nation's attention from domestic subjects to foreign ones. This is mere political gad-ding—as much idleness as that a poor cobbler indulges in when he leaves his bit of work to go and have a chat at the tavern.

"I am perfectly aware," says Lord John Russell in his address, "that the terms peace, economy, and reform have for the moment lost their charm to the ears of the present generation. But I must yet declare that if again elected your representative, you must not expect from me an abjuration of my old creed."

Well, this is candid enough. We are not sorry to see Lord

John standing for the City again. It would be a degradation to him at his time of day to fall back on Tavistock, which as much belongs to the Bedfords as the Tavistock Hotel in Covent Garden. Let our readers draw from their candidates, not a vague admiration of this man or that, but something as definite as this declaration of Lord John's. Whether the London men should support Lord John is their own affair. We have nothing to do with such matters at



MEMORIAL CHURCH TO BE ERECTED AT CONSTANTINOPLE.—(DESIGNED BY MR. W. BURGESS.)

we are not sorry that this critical division ensued: it was high time that there should be a new Parliament, and we fully expect a new Ministry, though Palmerston should retain his supremacy.

Some people make it the great question whether Palmerston shall be the man or no, and pit Palmerston against individual statesmen. Here, again, we cannot agree. Let the country by all means have Palmerston for Premier, if it likes him. We have much faith in the



at present. This we know, that if the general electors attend carefully to the principles of their men, they will determine, by so doing, the proceedings of these great leaders. Never was there so small a number of statesmen ready to assume an original lead and create a great following; never were all classes of statesmen so eager to catch up a popular cry, and work it. Accordingly, this is peculiarly the time to choose men—not by their professions of adhesion to this or that man, who scarcely knows what he means to do himself—but by their willingness to carry a policy with them into the House which you have heard, understood, and approved. Go for a domestic policy. "Russia is checked, and the Peace Society exploded," as we said last week; "now we want attention to colonial interests—education—emigration—and a right regimen for criminals; social improvement at home; abroad an honourable quiet." If a candidate pledges himself to such views as these, the Minister, whoever he may be, finding what kind of *matériel* he has to deal with, will shape his measures accordingly. It is plain that Palmerston is simply waiting to see how the wind blows, and the country must take advantage of that fine unprejudiced disposition of his.

And now for a fresh hint to electors—of the same kind as we gave them last week. We would say a word on the *personnel* of the new House. Birth and property will take the lead there by natural social laws, against which none but Utopians attempt to fight. But a numerous body must be chosen from the general middle class—men of business, men of professions; and these are true representatives of the people, because they really sit only by popular choice. Now, why do you—the electors—confine yourselves to the middle-aged, mediocre, retired business men and lawyers, who now swarm in the House? The fact is certain that you do; and the consequence is that your class scarcely ever gets into the administration at all. Such members are unfit for a competition with an accomplished boy familiar from their youth with public life. And the class which produced Burke, Canning, Brougham, Stiel, Macaulay, and Disraeli, has the greatest difficulty in getting an opening into politics at all. It is not a party question this,—for the exclusion tells equally against Liberals and Conservatives—a *man* against Radicals and Tories. Were Edmund Burke now an unknown man in London, the chances are he would not attain a seat in Parliament. He was not chosen for Bristol till he had distinguished himself while sitting for the little borough of Wendover.

The hack objections to your choosing from the ranks of men we mean are easily answered. Some people tell you, "We want a steady man, a man of business, &c.: no show, sir!" But they forget that fine talents often include the more business kind of talent (Burke, Pitt, &c., are instances); and that, besides, regular business talents are as likely to be found in this class as anywhere else. People confound public business with private business. A man may be able to pass a bill about the tea trade without being fit to set up as a tea broker, and *vice versa*. And supposing a man to have distinguished himself in a civil walk, he has secured by his culture some advantages which the other class can never have. He has raised himself out of parish politics. He will not apply the bagman standard to the affairs of Europe, and allow his country to be threatened and insulted because he has a notion that all war can be abolished. A liberal culture humanises the mind, and gives a man large views.

Now is the time for electors to give their best consideration to these and other questions. The great period is at hand. In a few weeks all will be over, and your fortunes finally committed to a guidance over which (judging from the experience of late sessions) your voices will have very little control.

#### MEMORIAL CHURCH AT CONSTANTINOPLE.

OUR readers will doubtless regard with an interest of no ordinary kind the engraving which appears on the preceding page. It will be recollected that about the time when the Crimean war was brought to a termination, and when the public were called upon to celebrate the restoration of peace, a crowded meeting, at which the Duke of Cambridge presided, was held to consider what steps should be taken to do honour to the memory of those brave and gallant Englishmen who, during the war, had fallen in their country's service. After some discussion, it was decided "That the most suitable memorial would be an edifice in which Almighty God might, from generation to generation, be worshipped, according to the rites and usages of the Church of England; and that such a Memorial Church be erected at Constantinople."

To carry this scheme into execution, the public were invited to send in contributions, and architects were requested to furnish designs for the edifice. Three prizes were offered; and no fewer than forty-six competitors presented themselves. After due deliberation, the first prize was, as we think very fairly, awarded to Mr. Burges.

The task set before the architects, or rather the problem they had to solve, was the production of a plan, by which, for the sum of £20,000, a church could be built, suitable to the English ritual and in style recalling the modifications of pointed architecture. Mr. Burges founded his design on a study of the church of St. Andrea, at Vercelli; and he thus states the difficulties to be encountered and the means to be used for that purpose:—

"At the outset, a difficulty presents itself. The church is essentially a Memorial Church, and should therefore be especially designed to contain monuments. For this purpose it appears to the author that a space should be separated from the rest of the church by a grille, so that there may be a space specially devoted to the preservation of monuments (many of which would doubtless be very costly), but which might be rendered available, when necessary, for the wants of the congregation. Impressed with the importance of this, the tower has reluctantly been omitted in favour of an ambulatory or space round the east end of the choir. At the same time, a design for the tower has been appended, in case of the funds becoming sufficiently increased to carry it out."

"For the sake of lightness, and in order to diminish the thrust, it is proposed to make the filling in of the vaulting of a light concrete, like that used at Salisbury Cathedral. It is much lighter than any stone, and should a settlement occur, does not become detached in small pieces, as a brick vault would, but simply cracks. For a similar reason, it is carried over the ribs, and not related on to them. In France, where this system is followed, the author has seen several vaults (the cloisters of Rouen, for instance) where the ribs have fallen, but the filling-in remains quite perfect."

"It is proposed to build the core of the walls with the rubble of black stone, and to face them inside and out with various ashlar of terra cotta, brick, and white and black stone. The Marmora marble will be confined to the dado of the nave, the caps of the columns, and the tracery plane of the windows; while the black stone and red marble, slightly polished, will be employed for the various columns."

We may remark, in conclusion, that it is proposed to cut the names of every officer and man who fell in the late war upon the panels of the dado of the nave, in fact, to follow the example of the Assyrian architects, who covered the alabaster dados of the palaces with inscriptions.

Next week we shall publish an interior view of the proposed building, accompanying it by some further remarks on this portion of the edifice.

**SUGGESTIVE.**—A letter from Constantinople says:—"The custom-house officers of Galatz lately seized a number of Slavonian books, which were about to be smuggled into Bulgaria. They contained among other matters prayers in which it is asked from Heaven to destroy the Ottoman empire, and to give it to the orthodox Emperor. What is singular is, that these books contain a notice, according to which they have been printed by order of the Emperor Alexander II., and with the consent of the synod of the Greek Church."

**A LETTER FROM THE CRIMEA** states that measures have been taken for repairing in the spring the towns which suffered from the late war, and especially Kertch, Eupatoria, and Sebastopol. The materials for the repairs are to be obtained from Odessa and Nicolaieff. The latter town is now the centre of the different branches of the administration of Southern Russia.

## Foreign Intelligence.

### FRANCE.

THE Emperor has decided that the tax in the law of the 5th June, 1850, on stamps and transfer of shares, shall be raised from 5 to 15 centimes upon every 100fr. real capital, regulated every three years by the average rate. It had been very recently reported that negotiations were in progress between the Governments of France and England, for sending a French army of 20,000 men to China in English vessels, when the "Pays," a Government journal, came out with the following paragraph:—"It has been said that a convention was signed between France and England to regulate the mode of co-operation between the two Powers in the affairs of China, and it was added that France had agreed to furnish an expeditionary corps of 20,000 men against the Celestial Empire. We consider it necessary to rectify both facts. There has not been any convention, properly so called, signed between the two Governments. There was merely an exchange of notes, which is sufficient; and, as to the very exaggerated amount of the expedition, it is reduced to the already known fact of ships and warlike stores placed under the command of Rear-Admiral Rigault de Genouilly."

A "Le Deum" was performed at the Tuileries on Sunday in celebration of the birth of the Prince Imperial, which took place on the night of March 15-16, last year. This first anniversary of the birthday of the Prince Imperial was celebrated on Monday. The "Moniteur" was full of promotions in honour of the event, but no special festivities took place. The officers of all the regiments of the Imperial Guard met in the evening at a grand banquet to celebrate the birthday of their comrade; for it must be remembered that the Prince Imperial is inscribed on the muster-roll of the 1st Regiment of the Imperial Guard.

Prince Danilo, of Montenegro, and his wife, were presented to the Emperor and Empress on Sunday; they subsequently were received by Prince Jerome. The Prince is now almost as much a "lion" as the Persian Ambassador.

It is said that the French Government has decided that the debt due to it by the Greek Government shall be remitted, and the Emperor expresses a hope that all the money due to France, and coming due by the Greek Government, will be expended on useful public works in the interior of Greece.

There are symptoms, according to a writer from Paris, of a strong opposition in the Senate to the Malakoff pension, the objection being, not to the grant itself, but to its transmission to the male descendants, which is looked on as the establishment of a majorat, and consequently as an infraction of the Constitution, which recognises the equality of the citizens before the law.

The son of Prince Menschikoff, a young man aged 22, has arrived in Paris.

### SPAIN.

THE Spanish legation to Mexico has, in consequence of the rupture of diplomatic relations between Spain and Mexico, returned home. Several vessels of war have sailed from Cadiz to Cuba, with troops destined to take part in the expedition against Mexico. General Jose de la Concha is likely to have the superior direction of the expedition, but the effective command is to be held by General Mendinueta. M. Pidal, the Minister of Foreign Affairs, had been authorised to take on himself the sole management of the Mexican question.

General Prim has been condemned by court-martial, and sentenced to six months' imprisonment.

The Government has given a severe reprimand to the Governor of Corunna for having restored to the clergy some of their property which had been sold, and has sent a circular to all the governors of provinces directing them to throw no obstacles in the way of *desamortisation*.

A Royal decree published in the "Gazette" orders that an agricultural exhibition shall be held at Madrid in the month of September in the present year.

Telegraphic communications are about to be opened between Lisbon and Madrid.

### AUSTRIA.

It is affirmed that a great change is about to take place in Austrian policy, and that the Emperor's Government intend to grant to his Roman provinces a constitution securing to them advantages similar to those recently accorded to Lombardy. "In the event of such a concession," says the letter which gives us this information, "Austria would have nothing to fear from the union of the Danubian Principalities, and the privileges which the Roumans of Wallachia and Moldavia would derive from such a measure."

The first proof which the Emperor of Austria will give to the Hungarians of his desire to content them, will be to make them a present of the splendid suspension-bridge between Pesth and Buda. At present the interest of the £700,000 which the bridge cost is paid by a small tax imposed on those who cross it.

### PRUSSIA AND SWITZERLAND.

As we anticipated, the conferences on the Swiss question have suffered an interruption. They were suspended in order that Count Hatzfeld might obtain fresh instructions from Berlin.

The "New Prussian Gazette" affirms that the admission by Switzerland of the King of Prussia's right of sovereignty is the express condition of the renunciation of that right; and that new instructions to that effect have been forwarded to Count Hatzfeld.

### RUSSIA.

THE Government of St. Petersburg is at this moment taking measures for a decisive campaign against the mountain population of the Caucasus, in the hope of finishing, once for all, with the independent tribes which have kept her power in check and arrested the accomplishment of her designs in Asia. With that object, great preparations are on foot, and orders have been sent to the troops who were echeloned on the shores of the Caspian and the banks of the Araxes, to act in case intervention should be required in Persia. They are estimated at not less than 100,000 men. But, independently of that force, Russia is said to have secured the active co-operation of several of the chiefs of tribes who recognise her authority. The force which is thus about to take the field is divided into five corps, which are to operate simultaneously on the north line, on that of the Black Sea, on the centre, on the line of the Caspian, and on the south. General Prince Bariatinski is nominated for the command in chief. It is expected that one of the Czar's brothers will proceed to the scene of operations.

Meanwhile, it is reported that the Circassians have gained a victory over the Russians on the banks of the Laba. The Russians are said to have recrossed the river, leaving on the ground 400 men, four guns, and part of their baggage.

The report that Russian troops had crossed the Persian frontiers, and of the cession of Persian territory to Russia, is denied by the St. Petersburg journals.

It is considered certain that the Czar will go to Italy this year, and it is added that in all probability he will go to Paris to visit the Emperor Napoleon. During his absence, the Emperor of Russia will be represented at the seat of his Government by a commission, composed of generals and high civic functionaries, with the Grand Dukes Nicholas and Michael, the Czar's youngest brothers, at their head.

### ITALY.

At Naples, the private *Fernanda* is to transport to the Argentine Republic those political prisoners who have consented to inhabit the territory ceded by the Argentine Government. The number of prisoners who accept the provisions of the treaty between the two Governments is said to be 240.

Government agents are very busy constructing and repairing roads in Sicily, not merely for the sake of improvements, but as a means of preventing insurrectionary attempts in future. Lighthouses are to be built along the coast, and orders have been given that from the 1st of May next all the points of the island shall be put in direct communication with Naples. By that day also the submarine cable which is to connect the Two Sicilies will be laid down.

The Sardinian Chamber of Deputies, in its sitting of the 16th instant,

accorded a credit of 5,000,000fr. for the fortifications of Alessandria. The numbers on the vote were 106 to 14.

The editor of the "Movimento," a Genoa journal, has been condemned to a fortnight's imprisonment and 500fr. fine, for an article insulting the Emperor of the French.

The opening of a fine new promenade, on the picturesque and beautiful shores of the Mediterranean, on the east side of the town of Nice, took place on the 19th. The ceremony came off with great éclat, her Imperial Majesty the Empress Dowager of Russia having consented to open the promenade.

### TURKEY AND THE EAST.

THE Porte has appointed Prince Konacki Vozogides to the post of Calmacin, or Provisional Governor of Moldavia, in place of Theodore Baleschi, deceased. It has been said that Baleschi was poisoned. Prince Vozogides is a young man, who was very recently in the political circles of London and Paris, where he made profession of very liberal principles and intentions.

The Porte has issued a law on the press. Printing and lithographic establishments are henceforward only to be authorised by special licence. Of all printed matter a copy has first to be handed in to the Council of Education, in order to receive its consent. The copyright of authors is established.

The *Ka-garoo*, having on board 300 Polish soldiers and Mehemet Bey (Colonel Bangya), their chief, has succeeded in eluding the Russian cruisers, which may probably have been on the alert to intercept her, and has disembarked the men, arms, and stores of the expedition upon the coast of Circassia. Mehemet Bey is a Hungarian, and his real designation is Colonel Bangya. He married the daughter of a Circassian chief, and was adopted as one of that nation. He has latterly been at Constantinople, occupying in the Turkish army the post of chief of the staff. The two Circassian envoys who recently visited that capital appear to have arranged with him the plan of this expedition, in which a number of the disbanded Polish Legion were induced to join. We reported the sailing of the expedition in our last number.

The French Consulate at Alexandria is said to have been persecuting the Roman exiles there. Many have been arrested and sent to Cairo Vecchia.

### PERSIA.

THE intelligence from Persia does not confirm the rumoured march of English troops into the interior.

In the Camp at Bushire the English suffered severely from sickness.

Nerimon Khan and Mirza Eboi Khan, the bearers of the treaty signed at Paris by Ferukh Khan, sailed on Thursday week for Constantinople. While, in this treaty, it is provided that in the event of difference with these countries, Persia shall appeal to the good offices of England, the latter recognises the right of the Persian Government to have recourse to arms in the case of a violation of the Persian territory by the inhabitants either of Herat or Affghauistan; on condition always of withdrawing its troops immediately on having obtained the reparation required.

### JAPAN.

INTELLIGENCE from Batavia states that a dispute has arisen between the British and the Japanese. Two English steamers have forced the port of Nagasaki.

### AMERICA.

THE cabinet of Mr. Buchanan, it seems, will be composed of the following individuals, and probably under the following arrangement:—State Department, Lewis Cass, Michigan; Treasury Department, Howell Cobb, Georgia; Interior Department, Jacob Thompson, Missouri; War Department, John B. Floyd, Virginia; Navy Department, Aaron V. Brown, Tennessee; Postmaster-General, J. Glancy Jones, Pennsylvania; Attorney-General, Isaac Toney, Connecticut.

An affray has occurred in Washington in which Mr. David Hume, a merchant of Alexandria, Virginia, was shot dead by Colonel Lee, a clerk in the Post-office. The occurrence grew out of a misunderstanding at the President's levee the night before, in which Colonel Lee accused Mr. Hume of picking his pocket.

A propeller is fitting out at New York for the relief of General Walker. The vessel is to carry a large force of recruits, arms, and provisions.

The Territorial Legislature of Kansas has passed a law to punish rebellion by death, and declaring all resistance to territorial law or authority to be rebellion. Governor Geary, fearing assassination, had sent for troops to protect him. He had been already publicly assailed. A Mr. Sherrod, whom he had refused to appoint as Sheriff of Douglas County, came up to him in the Senate chamber, called him a scoundrel, and spat in his face. Sherrod was immediately shot, though not mortally, by one of the bystanders.

Formal charges of incompetency and improper conduct in the Banel murder investigation have been preferred against Coroner Courtney, and his dismissal is probable.

The following is said to be a correct account of the new Mexican Treaty:—A loan of 15,000,000 dols., of which 3,000,000 are to be applied to the payment of American claims, which are to be adjusted by a joint commission. The remainder of the loan is unrestricted. 20 per cent. of the Mexican Customs' receipts is to be appropriated for its repayment. The Treaty also contemplates a joint-posal arrangement, *ad Tehuantepec*, as well as the transit of that route. There is no stipulation for the cession of any territory. Neither Congress nor the President have authority to contract a loan.

### INDIA.

THE conferences which had been going on between Dost Mahomed Khan and Sir John Lawrence broke up on the 28th Jan., on which day the former took leave of our plenipotentiary for his own dominions. The belief is very general that the Dost has given his consent to the establishment of a British residency at Candahar. The western border of the Bombay Presidency is unsettled by the fear of the Rohillas. Col. Sir Henry Lawrence has been appointed Chief Commissioner in Oude, in the room of General Outram. A melancholy occurrence took place on the evening of the 27th Jan., which certainly was a sad finale to the Dost's visit. Four officers rode out towards the Dost's camp, and when about a mile from it met some men, to all appearance in the charge of cattle. It however turned out that they were Afreedies. As soon as the officers passed, the natives turned round and gave them a volley, and immediately escaped into the pass (the officers were unarmed). Lieutenant Hano, 51st N.I., was mortally wounded, and after riding a short distance towards the Dost's camp fell; he lived about an hour after. The Governors of the presidencies are at the respective seats of their administration.

Letters from Bombay, of the 16th of February, mention that Colonel Jacob had sailed for the Persian Gulf with 1,000 cavalry and a regiment of infantry.

### CHINA.

WE have advices from Hong Kong fifteen days later than the date of our last reports.

Trade was at a standstill, the attention of the European inhabitants of Hong Kong being chiefly directed to means for their protection against the Chinese. One Allum, the alleged bread poisoner, and his associates, were to be tried immediately. Private letters of subsequent date allege that Allum was convicted, sentenced to death, and shot. Three of his accomplices were also executed. Many suffered very severely from the poison, none more so than the family of Sir John Bowring—Lady Bowring more particularly.

Public expectation was directed to the arrival of anticipated naval and military reinforcements, and the recommencement of offensive operations.

Canton is nearly all destroyed. The *Sansou*, on her way down to Hong Kong, fell in with a fleet of 150 mandarin junks, which had threatened an attack on Hong Kong, and destroyed several of them. The fight lasted for upwards of an hour. The only accident on board the *Sansou* happened to the Chinese pilot, whose leg was shattered, and who died shortly after the amputation of the limb.

With the exception of retaining Teetotum Fort, it appears that Admiral Seymour has been forced to abandon Canton; even the entrenched gardens could not longer be retained, as all the available force is required to keep open the passage of the river, in consequence of the wilful sinking of junks



to prevent any vessels of war or steamers passing up with troops. Whampoa has been completely abandoned. H.M.S. *Sybil* having been removed—all the valuable property, as dockyards, &c., had been abandoned to the Chinese, who were destroying everything.

On the 20th of January, when Admiral Seymour blew up the church and club house, the last remnant of British property, previous to leaving his station of Canton, the fleet, after the Dutch Folly and Birds' Nest forts had been abandoned, dropped down the Macao passage, and took up their stations as follows:—The *Encounter* and *Niger* just below Macao Fort; the *Comet* three miles below them; the *Acorn* at the Farrier Fort; the *Sybil* in Blenheim Reach; the *Barracouta* at High Island; and the *Nankin* at the Bogue; thus keeping open the entire channel and line of communication, which it was supposed will be continued until some of the reinforcements arrive. Before the Dutch Folly was evacuated, the city was bombarded from it: the operations on this occasion are described in a succeeding paragraph.

News from Amoy show a rather unsatisfactory state of affairs commencing there. No disturbance has taken place, but the Chinese are throwing up batteries—they say not for offence, but defence, in the event of our operations. The foreigners are not very easy, and the receiving ships are fitting out.

At Hong Kong there was a report from Shanghai that an Imperial Commissioner was expected from Peking to arrange matters with Sir John Bowring.

#### BURNING OF PORTIONS OF CANTON AND ITS SUBURBS.

At dawn on Monday, the 12th of January, the signal was given for extensive operations in firing the city and suburbs. Parties from the Dutch Folly were despatched, armed with fireballs, torches, steeped osak, &c., who penetrated the narrow streets of the southern suburbs still unburnt, and surprised the inhabitants ere they had stirred—setting fire to the houses in three points of the street, the inner one being close to the city wall. In one of these they came upon a guard of soldiers, and shot a few of them; in another the narrowly escaped capture by about 100 men from the walls, who went in pursuit of their small force (15 men). Simultaneously with the above, parties were sent from the *Barracouta*, *Encounter*, *Niger*, and from the barracks, to fire the western suburbs. This was done, including the houses on the bank of the river, commencing at the upper Shamen Fort, and ending near the factory grounds—the fire when lighted being kept in "trim" by red-hot shot and carcasses from the ships of war anchored off the respective localities.

In an attempt to fire the vicinity of Lookingglass Street a detachment of the 59th Regiment met with a repulse, in consequence of having unwarily come too near the wall, from which gignalls poured several rounds into them, killing two, and wounding eight.

At three P.M. fire was observed inside the city, produced by the carcasses from the Dutch Folly, which continued a hot fire from two guns and from two mortars. Towards night the fire extended, and was observed in three directions inside the walls. The destruction of houses must have been wide-spread from these separate fires; but the true extent could not be correctly ascertained. From Dutch Folly it was seen that a space 200 yards in depth near the Yamen was burnt to the ground; but there, too, they had no good point of view.

The destruction of houses to the east of the factories seems to be complete. To the westward, the destruction has been more partial as far as burning inland goes; but along the shore it has been successful.

#### THE PLENIPOTENTIARY TO THE COURT AT PEKIN.

The Earl of Elgin has accepted the office of Plenipotentiary to the Court of Peking, and will proceed on his mission as soon as he has been made sufficiently acquainted with the views of her Majesty's government. It is stated by the "Press" newspaper, that the post was first offered to the Duke of Newcastle.

#### REINFORCEMENTS FOR CHINA.

The force about to be concentrated at Hong Kong will consist of two brigades of infantry, composed of the 5th Fusiliers, now on their passage from the Mauritius, the 9th Regiment, now at Hong Kong, the 23rd Fusiliers, the 82nd, 90th, and 93rd Regiments, which will proceed as soon as the shipping arrangements are completed. This force will be further reinforced by four companies of artillery from Woolwich, 1,000 marines, and 100 men of the Royal Engineers; while, in the shape of auxiliary corps, it will be accompanied by one battalion of the military train, and 200 men of the Medical-staff Corps. The Commander-in-Chief will be Major-General Ashburnham, C.B., who had a command in the Sutlej campaign; he goes out with the rank of Lieutenant-General. The first brigade will be commanded by Major-General Sir Robert Garrett, K.C.B., now commanding a brigade at Gibraltar, and the second brigade by Major-General Strabensee, C.B., who holds a similar position in Dublin garrison. Colonel Pakenham, C.B., who was Adjutant-General of the Crimean Army, will be the Adjutant-General to the division, and Colonel Wetherall, C.B., late Quartermaster-General of the Turkish Contingent, goes out in the same capacity to China. Active preparations are making at Chatham Dockyard for the launch of the large screw-steamer *Renown*, 91 guns, which is to take place on the 28th inst. The screw gun-boats *Drake*, *Firm*, and *Janus*, have been commissioned at Portsmouth to join the reinforcements for China. The *Shannon*, 51, Captain Peel, for the same destination, left Spithead on Saturday. She has shipped a large supply of powder, shot, and shell, and will also carry a number of supernumerary seamen, marines, and boys, for disposal by Sir Michael Seymour.

The Spaniards at Canton were expecting a regiment from the Philippine Islands to avenge the assassination of their Consul.

The "China Herald" relates that the far-famed porcelain tower at Nanking was destroyed in November, during a bloody massacre of some 5,000 or 6,000 Imperial troops by the insurgents, who had gained possession of the city by treason.

Accounts from the frontiers of China, received at St. Petersburg, and published by the "Journal de l'Académie," announce that the Government of Peking is in a state of dissolution; that the Emperor has no cash, and is forced to issue iron coin; that all moneyed men had left the city, and that the Chinese and Manchous are in open hostility.

#### FLOATING OF THE MAIL STEAMER TYNE.

The Royal mail steamer *Tyne*, which was stranded on the coast of Dorset, on the 13th of January, has been set afloat again. She struck on a concealed ledge of rock, about half-a-mile from the shore, and where the tide rises to about nine feet. Her mails, passengers, crew, specie, and some portions of her merchandise having been taken out of her, attention was immediately directed to getting her off the ledge. The *Tyne* being an iron ship, and known to have been built remarkably strong, it was thought that by keeping the water in her, she would hold together a long time where she first struck. Numbers of men were, however, constantly employed in lightening her, and building a substantial bulk-head, so as to have the power at any time to pump her dry; and when she was considerably lightened, and the water partially pumped out of her, attempts were made by tugs to drag her into deep water. Continual and almost dish-artering failures accompanied these attempts. Still the motto of those who undertook to raise her was "Perseverance." Gradually she was lightened of everything that could be removed from her. Her engine work and boilers were taken out piecemeal, and every high spring tide an attempt was made to get her off. At one time the water was all got out of her, and preparations were being made to get her off, when, before they could be put in operation, a heavy underground swell came on suddenly, and before the water could be let in again, to make her stick fast, she drifted farther in toward land. On Wednesday week everything was again prepared to make a grand attempt to lift her by the high spring tide. Everything possible was got out of her just before the high tide, when three tugs got hold of her, and steamed away, assisted by a wind blowing off the land. Presently she moved about a foot, then another foot, until at length the magnificent hull, worth £40,000, floated into deep water. At half-past one on Thursday, the *Tyne* was in sight of Southampton. Two small steam-engines were on her deck pumping out the water from her as fast as she leaked. She had a considerable "list," her funnel and mainmast were gone, and she looked pitiable. All the West India steamers in the docks hoisted their colours to welcome her back, and hundreds of persons assembled in the docks to witness her entrance there. The *Tyne* was subsequently docked. It was found that the whole of her rudder and rudder-post were torn away, and about nine feet of her keel. She does not appear to be in the slightest degree strained. All her doors and ports open with the greatest ease, and none of the ornamental glass on board of her is broken. It is now ascertained that the first bulkhead that was built in her was built too near the stern, and did not prevent the water from reaching the fore part of the ship.

#### IRELAND.

**MURDER IN A PRISON.**—At the King's County Assizes, at Tullamore, a man named Pat Downes, a convict in the prison at Philipstown, was found guilty of the wilful murder of another convict there, Robert Johnson. The two men were in the same gang, which was employed in turning manure. On the morning of the 13th of February last, while at breakfast, prisoner was heard to say about the deceased, "I will pay him for all he did to me in Mountjoy Prison." When they returned to work, prisoner struck Johnson down with a spade, and inflicted four wounds which caused his death. Prisoner said he was sorry he had not done it before. It appeared that he had been several times sentenced to imprisonment for burglaries and robberies, and was at present under sentence of fourteen years' penal servitude. He is only twenty years of age.

**GREAT STORM IN DUBLIN.**—On Friday night and Saturday morning, Dublin was visited by a storm, which for violence and duration has not been equalled since the winter of 1849. A considerable amount of damage of a miscellaneous character was done, but we do not hear of any marine disaster. At Kilmainham jail a distressing accident occurred. A violent gust of wind prostrated the chimney of the governor's apartment, and the immense mass of brickwork crashed through the roof and fell into the bed-room underneath, where Mrs. Alison, the wife of the governor, happening to be at the time, suffered the most serious injuries.

**MR. SMITH O'BRIEN ON THE AFFAIRS OF THE EMPIRE.**—Mr. Smith O'Brien has addressed a manifesto "To the People of Ireland," on the present position of political affairs, and the course which, according to his judgment, ought to be pursued at the approaching elections. After noticing the Chinese question, and the "ruthless barbarities" at Canton, he refers to the Repeal agitation, and contends that the grievances which had given occasion for that movement still remain unredressed, including the tenant question, which, since the first introduction of Mr. Shorman Crawford's bill, has been left without any remedy; and the continued exportation from England of natives of Ireland in a state of destitution. He declares against all English parties—"Lord Palmerston, or Lord John Russell, or Lord D. R. or Mr. Gladstone, or Mr. Disraeli," and he urges the establishment of "a national party, on the formation of which, he says, 'a competition would arise between the rival factions of England for their neutrality, if not for their support.'" In the course of this address, Mr. Smith O'Brien says, "We have all been to blame. Let us, then, if possible, forget the past." He then gives advice as to future conduct, "as a politician who can never again occupy a seat in the Parliament."

#### SCOTLAND.

**NOTE ROBBERS.**—A farmer from the neighbourhood of Parick was, late on Wednesday evening last, robbed in Tronagate, Glasgow, of a pocket-book, containing one £5 bank-note, thirty one £1 bank notes, a half-sovereign, and a silver watch. A number of persons seized the farmer, who had been "enjoying himself," and took his property forcibly from him. The same evening, a fletcher from the neighbourhood of Dumbarton, was robbed in Stockwell Street, of a pocket-book containing a £20 bank-note, five £5 bank-notes, all of the Commercial Bank, and thirty seven £1 notes. This theft was committed by a female. No trace of the stolen property has as yet been obtained.

**LEITH HARBOUR.**—The revenue of Leith Harbour in the year 1855-56 amounted to £328,501, of which £91,524 accrued from dues on shipping. The amount due to Government at the present time is £228,374.

#### THE PROVINCES.

**MURDER AND SUICIDE.**—At the village of Sunnyow, near Willington, about eight miles from Durham, during the past week, a young woman named Jane Parkinson, the wife of a pitman working at Bowden Close Colliery, drowned herself and her two children in a small stream of water which passes under the Bishop Auckland Railway. When her body was discovered she lay with her face in the water, with her little boy by her side, his head immersed in the water, and her arm passed over him as if to hold him down. Upon raising the body of the mother her infant was found lying underneath her. The stream at the place where the bodies were found was only nine and a half inches in depth, and the boy's cap was drawn over his eyes in such a manner as to destroy any doubt as to the woman's guilt. The position and appearance of the bodies lead to the conjecture that the woman had first drowned the eldest child, and had then thrown herself into the water upon the infant.

**THE CONVICT GEORGE HOLMES.**—This notorious criminal, who was convicted of an outrageous assault upon a young girl in the West Riding, sentenced to two years' imprisonment, and liberated by order of the Home Secretary on the ground of ill-health after a short period of incarceration, has again been convicted on a charge of felony, at the last Wakefield Sessions for the West Riding, and sentenced to six years' penal servitude.

**SUICIDE OF A BURGLAR.**—John Cutting, one of a desperate gang of burglars, has committed suicide in his cell, in the County Jail, Springfield, Essex. He was found suspended by his hammock straps to the iron handle of the bell provided for each prisoner. He was quite dead. Cutting was convicted of burglaries, and was sentenced to twenty years' transportation.

**ACCIDENT AT THE EXHIBITION BUILDING, MANCHESTER.**—A high wind on Saturday morning did considerable damage to this building, by destroying portions of the glass which runs along the centre and most exposed part of the semi-circular roof. At one time it was thought desirable to withdraw the workmen employed inside, from the danger to which they were exposed by the falling pieces of glass; but fortunately the wind abated towards noon, and the damage will be easily repaired.

**STABBING ON BOARD AN AMERICAN SHIP.**—On Saturday night, William Hicks, chief mate of the American ship John J. Boyd, lying off Rock Ferry, Liverpool, discovered one of the seamen, John Bradley, in the act of breaking open the passengers' luggage. He ordered him on deck, when Bradley drew his knife, and rushing at the mate, stabbed him in the ear and arm. He was secured and lodged in the Birkenhead Bridewell.

**OPENING OF A FREE LIBRARY AT NORWICH.**—On Monday, the new free public library at Norwich was opened. The building is a large and handsome one, and provides accommodation for the local school of art, museum, and literary institution. In the room devoted to the museum a very fine collection of reptilian birds will be placed. The number of volumes at present in the library is about 3,000; newspapers and periodicals will also be supplied by voluntary subscription. The cost of the building, which occupies a central position in the city, has been between £5,000 and £6,000.

**THE LUND HILL COLLIERY EXPLOSION.**—Everything that science and skill can suggest for employing the Lund Hill pit and reaching the remains of the unfortunate men, seems to have been carried out by the proprietors. For the better security of those who will have to descend, air-pipes are about to be fixed, so that a current of air can be taken down as the men descend; for it is expected that a considerable quantity of noxious gas will be encountered. Subscriptions continue to be received from all parts of the country by the Central Committee, and to-morrow (Sunday) Dr. Bickersteth, the newly appointed Bishop of Ripon, preaches a sermon in Barnsley in aid of the fund. It already amounts to about £6,000, including £200 from the Queen, and £100 from Prince Albert.

**MURDEROUS ASSAULT ON A POLICEMAN.**—Superintendent Robson, of the Darlington police, having had information of a farmhouse having been broken into and robbed, and the farmer's wife much injured, suspected a young fellow named Goldsbrough, and went in pursuit of him, driving in a gig on the road towards Bishop Auckland, while Sergeant Linn and Constable Young proceeded inside the hedges bordering the road. Soon afterwards Linn shouted, "Hold!" and Mr. Robson, standing up in his gig, saw Goldsbrough rise from the hedge, lift a double-barrelled gun to his shoulder, and fire at Linn, who was only five or six yards from him. Linn, seeing his danger, threw himself down, and so escaped unhurt. Goldsbrough again raised the gun to his shoulder, and was about to fire a second time, when Linn rushed up, seized him by the throat, and threw him down. Goldsbrough being secured, the second barrel was found loaded, and he had also a loaded pistol. The prisoner being brought before the magistrates at Darlington, was remanded for a week.

**DARING GAROTT ROBBERY.**—Mr. Charles Morris, a member of the bar on the Northern Circuit, was recently attacked and robbed by two men and a woman, in one of the public thoroughfares of York. One of the men seized Mr. Morris by the throat, whilst the other and the female succeeded in stealing his watch, with which they ran off. It is satisfactory to know that Mr. Morris was not much hurt.

**PERILOUS MERCHANDISE.**—Three packages were received at Southampton last week from France to be shipped on board the *Magdalena* about to leave with the West India mails. The packages were declared by the shippers to consist of wooden goods. Two of them were shipped underneath other goods, but the other was by accident separated from them. On Sunday this package caught fire, and it was then found that all three of them consisted of lucifer matches. If this accident had not happened on Sunday, it is not at all improbable that the ship might have been set on fire at sea.

**GALE IN THE CHANNEL.**—The weather was extremely rough and boisterous in the Channel during the latter part of last week, and particularly so on Friday night. The *Martina*, of Colchester, was, it seems, about fifty miles off in the Channel on this evening, when she was overtaken by the gale, and four poor fellows were washed overboard and lost. The only one of the crew now left was a lad about eighteen years of age; and he succeeded in brizing the smack safe to Shoreham harbour on Saturday afternoon, having laboured for several hours in accomplishing this perilous and extraordinary task. On reaching Shoreham he was much exhausted, having been without food for a long time.

**THE FOUNDATION STONE OF A NEW REFORMATORY AND REFUGE FOR FEMALES** was laid in the presence of a large concourse of spectators, on Monday, at Exeter. The Mayor, Mr. W. Buckingham, performed the ceremony, and addresses were afterwards delivered by Sir M. Lopez, Mr. Milford, and Sir H. Northcote.

#### THE THRONE ROOM AT TEHERAN.

We have received from our artist, M. Eugene H. d'Ar, the following additional particulars respecting the Throne-room at Teheran, a page engraving of which appeared in our number of last week:—

Within the walls of the palace, or serai, of the Shah of Persia, at Teheran, are several kiosks—edifices built in gardens, where fountains are always flowing. The most remarkable of these kiosks is that called the Throne-room, or the Throne-room. It is built on a marble pavement, from the midst of which a little stream flows out into an open canal, bordered by trees and shrubs. The building of which the Throne-room is the chief apartment is divided into three parts; in the centre is the Royal saloon; on either side is an apartment reserved for the favoured ones who are permitted to assist at the *salam*—that is to say, at the ceremony in which the grandees and the people pay homage to the Shah.

One end of the Throne-room is entirely open, the roof being here supported by two magnificent spiral columns, each composed of three blocks of marble, brought from Maragha, on the borders of the Lake Ourmash. The pedestal, the shaft, and the capital are each of one piece. The columns are painted, but not so as to conceal the fine material of which they are composed. Garlands of fruit and flowers, in green and gold, wind round the columns from the base to the capital.

The whole interior of the apartment is of great elegance and magnificence. Ornament in gold and azure, paintings, statues, mirrors, contribute to give effect to the whole, the very walls being covered with decorations. On the panels are painted battle scenes and the portraits of kings, heroes, and fair women; these pictures being surrounded by beautiful arabesques and carved framework in blue and gold. The ceiling is ornamented with gracefully-executed cartoons. On the floor is spread a carpet—the richest, and finest, and most luxurious of all carpets. In the middle of this enviable apartment is the *Takht*, or throne. It is impossible to imagine anything more original or more elegant than this throne. It is composed entirely of alabaster or marble, like that of which the columns are carved. It consists of a large table, at the extremity of which is a raised portion on which the King sits. Cushions are placed thereon, which serve for *accotlers*, and which are supported by a sort of sculptured back upheld by two small columns. This alcove is surrounded by a gallery covered with sculpture and crowded with statues. The throne is about three feet high, and is reached by two steps which rest upon the backs of two sleeping lions. It is otherwise upheld by columns, couchant lions, and caryatides in the shape of pages dressed in the costume of the harem. Behind, in a niche, is a basin of fresh sparkling water, on the surface of which are scattered jasmine flowers and rose leaves. The perfume therefrom flatters the senses of the monarch, while all classes of his subjects come to prostrate themselves before his presence.

**THE BRITISH SQUADRON IN THE BOSPHORUS.**—Admiral Lyons, in an order of the day, has put out the order of departure of the vessels of his squadron from the Bosphorus. They are to leave in succession, and repair to Malta, where they will all assemble before proceeding to England. Admiral Lyons was to leave Constantinople on the 15th, in the *Royal Albert*, at which time the only vessel remaining would be the *Miranda*, attached to the service of the English embassy.

**UNION OF THE MEDITERRANEAN AND RED SEA.**—The plan proposed by M. Ferdinand de Lesseps for uniting the Mediterranean with the Red Sea by means of a ship canal across the Isthmus of Suez, was recently referred for consideration to the Academy of Sciences of the Imperial Institute of France. Baron Charles Dupin was appointed to prepare the report, which he has done, and in it he gives M. de Lesseps' plan in full and entire appellation. He then compares the Suez Canal with the English Railway. He shows the very different character of the two works, and goes far to demonstrate, for the transport of merchandise, the superiority of the canal over the railway. In Nos. 82 and 85 of the "Illustrated Times" we gave several engravings, accompanied by full descriptions, of the proposed ship canal, and also of the stations on the Alexandria and Cai railway.

**THE SOUND DUES CONVENTION.**—A general treaty has been definitely concluded between Denmark and the principal maritime States of Europe for the abolition of the Sound Dues. By the terms of this treaty he tells and dues of every kind to which vessels were subject in their passage through the Sound and the Belts will be completely abrogated from and after the 1st of April; Denmark also engages to abolish, with regard to certain kinds of merchandise, and to reduce by a great proportion with regard to other merchandise, the tolls which have hitherto been levied, under the title of Transit Dues, upon the traffic of the Eyder Canal and the routes connecting the Baltic with the North Sea. The maritime States, on their part, bind themselves to pay Denmark, by way of compensation, in one or several payments, an indemnity representing the revenue derived from the existing tolls, taken at an average of five years, and capitalised at the rate of four per cent.

**ILLNESS OF HUMBOLDT.**—Alexander von Humboldt has had a very severe attack of illness, the consequences of which it was at first feared would be fatal. Having returned home at a late hour from a court ball, and having retired to rest, he was obliged to get up in the night, and fell partially paralysed on one side. Entire rest, and the care of one of the first physicians of Berlin, have now, however, almost completely restored him to his usual health. He has been twice visited by the King. The last accounts of the venerable philosopher announced that he could sit up during three or four hours in the day, and had resumed his literary occupations.

**SOME OF THE SILKWEAVERS OF LYONS** are on strike, and the French Government seems inclined to interfere between the masters and the men—a rather dangerous proceeding, it must be admitted.

**STATISTICS OF THE CHINA TRADE.**—In 1855-6 the total export of tea from China to Great Britain, from the 1st of July to the 15th of January, was 56,005,100lbs.; in 1856-7, the total export for the corresponding period was 59,991,400lbs.; being a decrease of 16,013,700lbs. In 1843-4 the total export of tea from China to Great Britain was 41,639,400lbs.; in 1855-6 it was 91,931,800lbs. In 1843-4 not a single bale of silk was exported from China to Great Britain; in 1855-6, 50,489 bales were exported.

**THE HUMANITIES IN CHINA.**—A French priest, the Abbé Belloc, who arrived at Lyons from Marseilles a few days ago, attracted great attention as he walked through the streets, by his frightfully mutilated condition, and the story connected with it. He was one of five missionaries sent to preach the Gospel to the savage tribes of Penang Kion, at the extremity of the Chinese empire, near the mouth of the Tchou-Kiang river. His four colleagues were beheaded, and he himself, after having had his nose and ears and right hand cut off, was about to suffer the same fate, when he was rescued by some English sailors. The Abbé Belloc is now at Rennes, where he has relations.

#### THE CHINESE SOLDIERY.

The love of military array, and the ambition of attaining to military glory, are natural instincts in every nation; and where not judiciously fostered by the governing powers, conduce to bad results. This is well confirmed by the demeanour of the Chinese soldiery, who are everywhere regarded as an inferior class. They are naturally pusillanimous in battle, but proverbially cruel in all cases where they obtain the mastery; and are rapacious to such an extent that "the honour of a soldier" is an expression altogether unknown to the Chinese language. Yet, strangely enough, so far from its being requisite to enrol soldiers by compulsion, conscription, ballot, or by bounty-money, the profession of arms is eagerly sought after as an agreeable addition to an individual's means of livelihood, as it leaves him at perfect liberty to pursue his agricultural or manufacturing employments. The greater part of the Chinese soldiers are, in fact, a mere militia, periodically called out; exceptions occurring only among the Tartar troops (which compose the real army) and those Chinese who are retained as standing police-guard, receiving about threepence a day of our money.

#### ENLISTMENTS.

Enlistments are curious affairs, and are conducted after a unique manner. Booths, or more correctly speaking barracks, being erected in the square in front of the factories or other public edifice, the Kwang-Chow-Foo and other officers of high rank repair thither on the day appointed for the examination of volunteers. Before the tent of the Kwang-Chow-Foo the lictors preserve a large open space, into which the valiant candidates for military honours are introduced. To enter this magic circle or rather square, is not, however, to come, to see, to conquer. No; to prove his qualifications, each would-be recruit is required to lift a spear of about five feet in length, with a circular or wheel-shaped piece of granite at each end, the combined weight of which is about a hundred cwt. This has to be taken off the ground with both hands, and elevated above the head till the arms are held straight. At a table stands a man armed with a large piece of chalk about two cwt. in weight. As the tyros, trembling with expectation, advance, it is this man's duty to seize them by





CHINESE SOLDIERS.

the wrist, and to rub the balls of the thumbs and fingers of both hands with the chalk. After a long and no gentle rubbing, he hands the new-made soldiers over, one by one, to a man who places their name in a registry-book.

#### DRESS AND ACCOUTREMENTS.

In the dress and accoutrements, as in the pay of the Tartar and Chinese soldiers (the first being the regular, the second the militia corps), there is a great distinction. The Tartars, or Tigers of War, are dressed in quilted togas of yellow cloth (the Imperial colour), studded with metal buttons, and striped with black, in imitation of a tiger's hide. They have ears to their caps to carry out the tiger notion. These caps are formed of split bamboo, so compactly interwoven as to be capable of resisting a violent blow; the shield is of the same material and workmanship, and has generally the head or entire image of some monster painted on it, to terrify the foe. The cavalry have an iron helmet, terminating in the shape of an inverted funnel, from the top of which a bunch of horse-hair depends. Many of the soldiers have inscribed on their breasts, in Chinese characters, on a round red badge, the word "young," valour; which, as Mr. Davis appropriately remarks, "might be all very well; but when the same individuals turn round, and display the identical word inscribed on their backs, the position seems particularly unsuitable; unless, indeed, in the sense of Hudibras."

The uniform of the Chinese soldiers—who are, as we have intimated, simply military police—is much less costly and regular than that of the Tigers of War. It consists principally of a large-sleeved blue jacket, trimmed with red, or the reverse, and



MILITARY MANDARINS.

thickly padded with cotton, the inside of the breast being closely inlaid with thin scales of iron, rendering that part of the dress perfectly ball-proof. Beneath this is a long, clumsy petticoat of coarse nankeen. The head is protected by a conical cap of bamboo, or sometimes of cloth or silk. This dress, and the thick-soled shoe or boot, impart a specially inactive and non-military appearance. For state occasions, however, they have magnificent embroidered petticoats and satin boots, of the description to be seen any time during Easter at any establishment where the entertainment is really got up "regardless of expense." These are always carefully labelled, and locked up in the arsenals until again called for.

The weapons, offensive and defensive, of the Chinese army, are as contemptible as their uniform is unwieldy, and are unworthy of so ingenious a people. They number iron cannons, matchlocks, spears, and shields among their principal arms, but they are all of the most wretched description.

Not on sword, spear, or shield, however, does the Tartar soldier place his reliance in war, but on his beloved bow—that weapon to which he has been accustomed from childhood. The bow is remarkably neat in construction, and in shape similar to those of India. It is made of an elastic wood, cased in horn, and having a string of silken thread, strongly twisted. The arrows (of which each soldier has about a dozen in a quiver behind him) are straight, well-finished, and armed at the points with a shank or spear of steel. We reserve a more particular description of the Celestial weapons, however, to another occasion, when we will give some account of the military system and organisation of the Chinese.



CHINESE SOLDIERS EXERCISING.

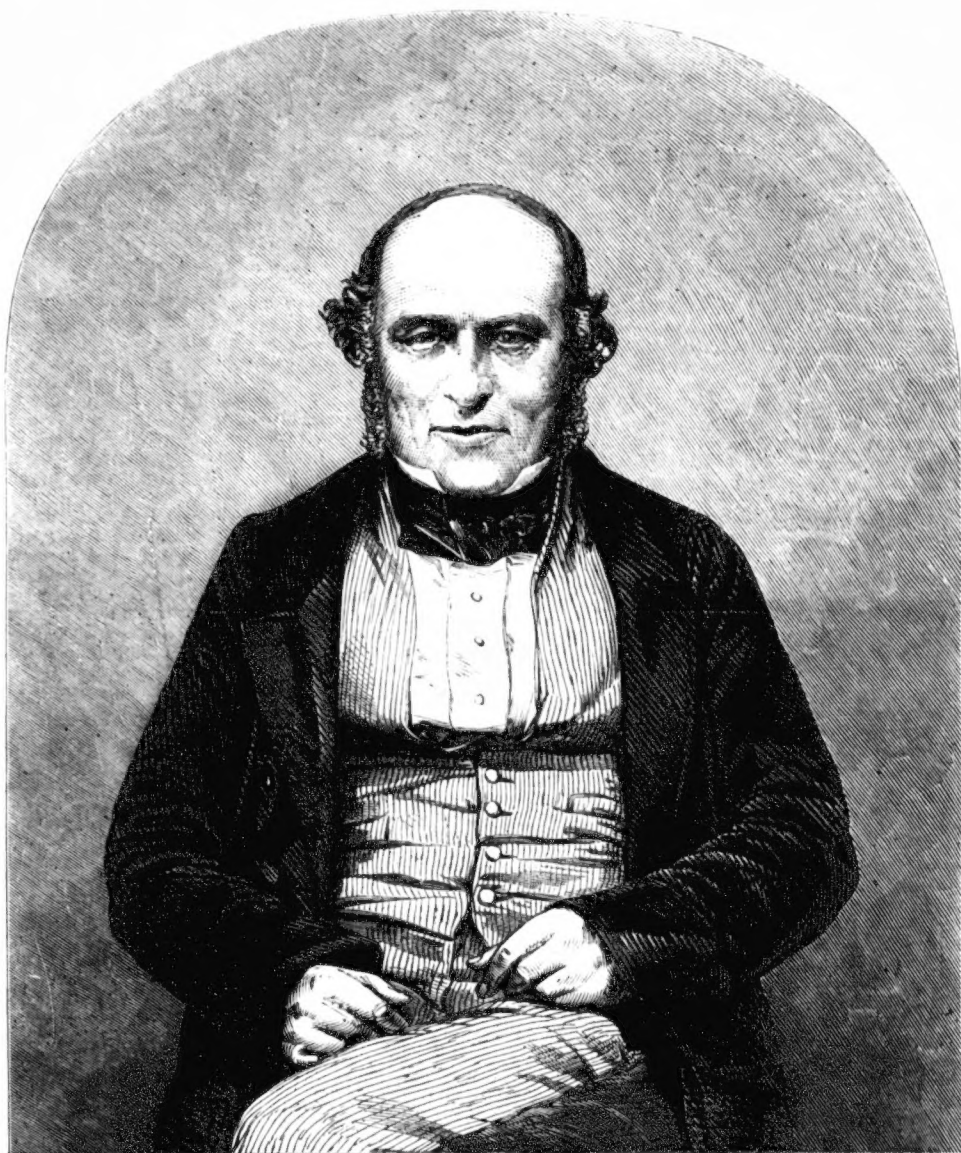


CHINESE ARCHER.



## MR. ROWLAND HILL.

MR. ROWLAND HILL, whose portrait we engrave in the present number, is one of the family of Mr. Thomas Hill, a schoolmaster in Birmingham, all of whose sons have attained distinction in their several professions. The eldest, Mathew Davenport Hill, is a Queen's Counsel, and is judge of the Bristol Bankruptcy Court; he is, however, best known by his exertions in the cause of juvenile reformation, and by the pertinacity with which, in his capacity of Recorder of Birmingham, he addresses special juries in support of the present system of ticket-of-leave. The second son, Edwin Hill, is the head of the Stamp department at Somerset House; the third, Arthur Hill, is the Head-Master of "Bruce Castle" Academy, one of the best commercial and mathematical schools near London; while the fourth, Rowland, the subject of our biographical sketch, has taken a higher position than any of his brothers. After passing his early life in assisting his father in the duties of the school, Mr. Rowland Hill came to London, where the first appointment we find him holding was that of Secretary to the Colonisation Commissioners, and it was while in that situation, that in the year 1836, he wrote and published his celebrated pamphlet on Post Office organisation and improvement, which was the foundation of those extraordinary changes in postal matters which have since taken place. Government, pressed upon by the London merchants, named a committee to inquire into the feasibility of Mr. Hill's plans, he himself giving evidence before them. The Commissioners at first recommended that the scheme of the penny postage should be at first tried for the London district only; but eventually, Mr. Spring Rice, then Chancellor of the Exchequer, was compelled to give way, and the plan, in its present integrity, so far as the amount of postage money is concerned, was adopted. In Sept., 1839, Mr. Hill was appointed by Lord Melbourne's Government to carry out his scheme of penny postage, with a certain engagement for two years. Just as the two years were about to expire, the Whigs were thrown out of office, but before they actually resigned they extended the term of Mr. Hill's employment for one year more. In September, 1842, Mr. Hill quitted the Treasury, the Peel Government declining his further services; and, in 1843, a Parliamentary Committee was appointed to inquire into the alleged opposition to his schemes from the various heads of the Post Office department. In a very short



ROWLAND HILL SECRETARY TO THE GENERAL POST OFFICE.—(FROM A PHOTOGRAPH.)

time he was elected Chairman of the Brighton Railway, and, while acting in this capacity, he carried out many valuable improvements; among others, the introduction of "Excursion Tickets" is due to him. In December, 1846, he returned to the Post Office as Secretary to the Postmaster-General, holding divided authority with Colonel Maberly; but on the transfer of the latter gentleman to the Audit Office in April, 1854, Mr. Hill was appointed the Secretary to the Post Office, a situation which he now holds. He is a man of rare mechanical and mathematical genius, great firmness, and indomitable perseverance.

The last great scheme originated by him many years ago, and now being carried out under his auspices, is the division of London into Postal Districts, each of which, as far as regards the Post Office, will be treated as a separate town. This plan, which has for a long time been a favourite one with Mr. Hill, is now only commencing its operations; but even now immense facilities and improvements are discovered. In carrying it out, the co-operation of the public is requisite; the initials of the district for which the letter is intended must be attached to the address; and a reference to the map published with this week's number of the "Illustrated Times" will at once facilitate the object of all letter-writers. These letters, once bearing the initials, go through their first sorting before reaching London, a process which has greatly relieved the officials of the General Post Office, and has led to an important acceleration in the morning delivery of letters in the metropolis.

The distribution of the duties of the London District Branch of the Department amongst several sorting Offices, will moreover relieve the Chief Office in St. Martin-le-Grand (now so much crowded and deficient in space) of a large portion of business; and will thereby tend to prevent confusion and ensure greater regularity in the performance of the duties. It will have the further great advantage of furnishing the means of bringing large numbers of the Letter Carriers under better supervision and control than can at present be maintained.

When the measure is fully carried out, London will be divided into ten districts, each with a distinct sorting-office, viz.: two central, and eight out districts; the out districts stretching through the environs of London, and beyond, until they reach the twelve mile circle, by which the London District is at present bounded. The collection, sorting, despatch, and delivery of all London District letters will be made through the agency of these District Offices, each as regards its respective District. The result will be a great acceleration in the delivery of letters, which is certainly of inestimable value to the mercantile public.



THE SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF COMMONS ANNOUNCING HIS RETIREMENT



## THE SPEAKERSHIP.

THE origin of the office of Speaker of the House of Commons is undiscussable. It lies behind that dark curtain which conceals so much of the early history of our country, and indeed of all countries. The first Speaker mentioned in the Parliamentary Rolls is Sir Thomas Hungerford. He held the office in 1377, in the reign of Edward III. But there must have been many Speakers or Presidents of Parliament before that time. In the earliest Parliaments the Monarch was the President, as Parliament was then merely an "assembly of nobles," summoned to meet together to give counsel to the king; but when the great National Assembly had become crystallised into something like its present form, the third estate must certainly have had a Speaker, whose first duty would be to preside, and his second, and at that time perhaps his most important, to be the *prolocutor*, or "speaker of the sentiments of the House" in its intercourse with the Crown. In the present day the intercourse with the Sovereign is a purely formal matter, but it used not to be so. The Speaker until comparatively a late period of our history, not unfrequently addressed the Crown in language of counsel and even remonstrance; and many specimens of some very bold speeches uttered by Speakers of the House, might be given if we had space. We give only one, not further back than eighteenth century. Sir Fletcher Norton, then Speaker, thus boldly addressed King George III., at the bar of the House of Lords, in the presentation of a Bill for the Royal Assent: "Most Gracious Sovereign.—The Bill which it is now my duty to present to your Majesty, is intitled, 'An Act for the better support of his Majesty's household, &c.' to which your Commons humbly beg your Royal assent. By this Bill, Sir, and the respectful circumstances which preceded and accompanied it, your Commons have given the fullest and clearest proof of their zeal and affection for your Majesty. For in a time of public distress, full of difficulty and danger, their constituents labouring under burthens almost too heavy to be borne, your faithful Commons postponed all other business, and with as much despatch as the nature of the proceedings would admit, have not only granted to your Majesty a large present supply, but also a very great additional income—*great beyond your Majesty's highest expense*. But all this they have done in a well-grounded confidence that you will apply *wisely* what they have granted liberally." &c. &c. This speech gave great offence to the King, but the Speaker was supported by the House, and his speech ordered to be printed; and the Corporation of London voted him the freedom of the city for his boldness. But, as we have said, communication between the Crown and the House is now a mere formality; and by far the most arduous and responsible duties of a Speaker, are those of a president and not those of a prolocutor. These remarks will, however, show why the President of the Commons of England first came to be called "the Speaker." He was the mouth-piece or organ of the House. What the House instructed him to say he was to say (in his own words it might be), and no more. When Charles I. went into the House to look for the refractory Members, and demanded of Speaker Lenthall, "Whether any of the persons he sought were in the House, whether he saw any of them, and whom they were?" Mr. Speaker answered, "May it please your Majesty, I have neither eyes to see nor tongue to speak in this place, but as the House is pleased to direct me, whose servant I am here; and humbly beg your Majesty's pardon, that I cannot give any other answer than this to what your Majesty is pleased to demand of me." Since the time when the name of Sir Thomas Hungerford appeared on the Parliamentary Rolls, there have been, including himself, 115 Speakers. Many of these belonged to the most ancient and honourable families in the realm. The noble family of Waldegrave, in its various branches, direct and collateral, can boast of having given no less than eight Speakers to the House of Commons.

## THE PRESENT SPEAKER.

The Right Hon. Charles Shaw Lefevre was born on the 22nd of Feb., 1794; he is therefore sixty-three years old. His father was Charles Shaw, Esq., barrister-at-law, who was returned to Parliament for Newport in the Isle of Wight, in 1796, and sat for Reading in the Parliaments of 1802-6, 7-12 and 1818. He married Helena, only daughter of John Lefevre, Esq., of Heckfield Place, near Hartfordbridge, Hants, and thenceforward took the name of Lefevre. Mr. L. was a gentleman of ancient Norman family, which for many generations resided in the neighbourhood of Rouen, and was compelled, like many other families, to quit France and settle in England, in consequence of the revocation of the Edict of Nantes. Mr. Shaw Lefevre, the present Speaker, was educated at Winchester, and at Trinity College, Cambridge; graduated A.B. in 1815, and A.M. in 1819; and was called to the bar, at Lincoln's Inn, in 1819. In 1817, he married Emma Louisa, the daughter of the late Samuel Whitbread, Esq. (the well-known orator and statesman), by his wife, the sister of the late Earl Grey; and has had three sons, all of whom died young, and three daughters, now living.

## HIS CONTEMPORARIES AT WINCHESTER.

Amongst his contemporaries in that distinguished school, were the present Warden of Winchester; Dr. Arnold, of Rugby; Professor Empson; Lords Northesk, Methuen, Rayleigh, Hastings, and Tenterden; Bishop Shirley, Sir Henry Wilcock, Mr. H. U. Addington, and Sir John Davis, eminent in the diplomatic service; General Fane, Lord Cranworth, Sir William Erle, and Mr. Justice Williams. And whilst in Parliament, he has seen among his old schoolfellows, the following take their seats—Sir Ralph Lopez, Sir J. McTaggart, Sir J. Tyrell, Sir E. Scott, Cumming Bruce, C. Round, W. Deedes, J. W. Bransford, C. Moody, W. Wrighton, Sir Bouchier Wrey, P. Midway, C. E. Law, Sir Francis Baring, Henry Labouchere, and W. G. Hayter.

In 1830, Mr. Lefevre was returned to Parliament by the borough of Downton, which place was disfranchised by the Reform Bill. In 1831, he was returned for North Hampshire, and has continued to be its member ever since. He is lieutenant-colonel of the North Hants Yeomanry, and is reported to be fond of soldiering; high steward of Winchester; and deputy-lieutenant of Hants. During the nine years that Mr. Shaw Lefevre was a private member, he frequently spoke in the House, supporting the Liberal party, to whose principles he was firmly attached, and proved that he was an able debater and sound constitutional lawyer. He was chosen Speaker of the House in 1839, upon the retirement of Mr. Abercrombie. His opponent was Mr. Goulburn, who lately died. The contest was a very severe one, and numbers ran very close, although 616 members polled; but Mr. Lefevre beat his opponent by 18. There were for Mr. Lefevre, 317; for Mr. Goulburn, 299. He was again chosen Speaker in 1841, in 1847, and in 1853; but during his first session, his merits had become so apparent, and he had gained such golden opinions from both sides of the House, that after the first struggle no opposition was thought of. On his last re-election, Sir Robert Harry Inglis and Lord George Bentinck, both political opponents, addressed the House, and congratulated it on the choice which it had made; and Lord John Russell made the following remarks, after Mr. Speaker had acknowledged the honour which for a third time had been conferred upon him:—"It was your fortune to succeed to a person of distinguished learning, of great knowledge of the Constitution, and of great experience in the House. Placed in this position of disadvantage by the qualifications of your immediate predecessor, you have nevertheless established a character as Speaker of this House which is not a matter of envy to any one, but is equal to that of any former Speaker. And I trust that, being long in possession of the honour conferred upon you by the House, your reputation may continue to increase, and that you may leave as bright a name to posterity as that of the greatest Speaker that ever sat in that chair."

## MR. SPEAKER IN THE CHAIR.

And well has Mr. Shaw Lefevre fulfilled the prophecy of his Noble Friend; for assuredly no Speaker has done more than he has to maintain the dignity of his position and the order of the House; to facilitate the despatch of business, whether public or private; and whilst he preserved rigorously the rules of debate, to secure to every Member who wished to speak a fair and impartial hearing—indeed, it is impossible to laud too highly his demeanour in the chair. His *suaviter in modo, his fortiter in re*, his kind accessibility, his readiness to give to all parties his valuable counsel, are above all praise, and have secured to him a respect and deference and attachment which perhaps have never been accorded in the same degree to any other Speaker. And yet the Speaker's duties are no trifle; he mere labour and trial of patience which have to be endured whilst ac-

tively presiding over the House, are of no ordinary character. What Member is there who, on the evening of a long, exciting, and wearisome debate, which lasted from dewy eve to early morn—perhaps from four o'clock in the afternoon of one day until four in the morning of the next—has not pined the Speaker? Private Members can leave the House, go away to their clubs, dine, and otherwise recreate themselves, but the Speaker is chained to his chair; and excepting for a quarter of an hour or so, to gulp down a cup of coffee or a glass of wine, never leaves until the question be put and carried, "That the House do now adjourn." From his elevated position he sees the Members drible in to "make a House"—crowd the benches about five o'clock to hear the opening of the debate—gradually glide away at the prandial hour, until not more than some fifty or sixty are left—return at ten or eleven, and again fill the seats—and, strong as giants refreshed with wine, cheer on the speaker, call out for others, and prolong the debate far into the small hours—and all the while the Speaker is a fixture. And let it be remembered also that Mr. Speaker has not the excited interest in the debates which the stranger has who only hears them now and then. To him the eloquence of the most eloquent, the wit of the wisest, can hardly be other than tiresome. Nor is it possible for him to sleep, as some fancy he does; for, not to mention the points of order which are often arising to receive his settlement, it is his duty at the close of each speech, when several Members rise to speak, as there generally are, to call out the name of the Member who first catches his eye; and how can any Member "catch the Speaker's eye" if he should happen to be asleep? No! whether the debate be dull or lively—whether the House be full or empty, Mr. Speaker must always be on the watch. Other Members may sleep, as they often do, but he must always be awake, "fixed as a sentinel, all eye and ear," even though Bethell for hours should ripple out his monotonous talk, like the gurgling of a pebbly brook, or Henley "wind his drowsy horn."

The "Rollad," in allusion to the Speaker's Chair, in 1784, well describes the patient suffering of this high functionary:—

"There Cornwall sits, and as compelled by fate,  
Must sit far ever through the long debate—  
Like and Prometheus, fastened to the rock,  
In vain he looks in pity to the clock;  
In vain the powers of strengthening porter tries,  
And nods to Belding for fresh supplies!"

But the duties of the Speaker are not confined to the House; there is a great deal to be done in private. All that mass of business which the House gets through every session, cannot be brought into the House without a vast deal of previous arrangement; and though Mr. Speaker, of course, has nothing to do with the concocting of measures, or drawing of bills, or the settling of the terms of resolutions, yet it is his duty to see that nothing is done contrary to the orders of the House; and this involves a deal of trouble in the way of consultation and conference with all sorts of people. It is true he has "the Speaker's Counsel" and a private secretary to help him, or he could not possibly get through the duties; but still in all matters of dispute, he is the ultimate referee, and has no small labour even out of the House.

## HIS RETIREMENT.

But all these varied and trying duties, which our Speaker has performed with such admirable punctuality, suavity, firmness, and wisdom, are now over. For eighteen years he has been the Speaker of the House, and during all the jarring of opinion, the rude and rough conflicts of parties, the rise and wreck of political reputations, he has maintained an unspotted fame; and now he retires to enjoy the affluence and honour which a grateful country awards. It has long been rumoured that this was to be his last session; and on Monday the 9th, he formally announced that he should not be in the next Parliament, and it was settled that on the following day the Premier should move the House that a vote of thanks should be presented to him for his services. When the announcement was made the House was thin, as it was not expected; but it was not so on the following days, for in the interval the announcement appeared in the morning papers; and at once every member in town, and many not in town, determined to be present to assist in performing this graceful duty to the Speaker. At half-past four o'clock on Tuesday there were about 400 members present—a very large number, considering that we are on the eve of a dissolution, and that, consequently, many of the members are gone to look after their constituents. At a quarter to five Lord Palmerston walked into the House (or rather hobbled, for, alas, the Noble Premier cannot yet afford to throw away his sticks) and immediately, amidst great cheering, introduced his motion. We will not trouble our readers, however, with what any of the speakers said, as all that has appeared, and been generally read in the daily and weekly papers. When Lord Palmerston sat down, Mr. Disraeli followed, and then Lord John Russell. And then arose the Speaker to put the question, which he did with great dignity. And what a shout was that which answered his call that those who were for the motion should say "Aye!" It was more like a well-fired volley of musketry than a shout. Let the reader fancy 400 men, unanimously and heartily, and in capital time and harmonious unison, shouting, or rather shooting, out the word "Aye," and he will have some idea of the startling effect which it produced. The Speaker then put the negative—"they that are against it, say No!" and the dead silence which ensued was very striking. But this did not last long, for when the Speaker had decided that "the Ayes have it," there rang out the heartiest cheers which it has ever been our lot to hear in the House of Commons. They were different from all others, for they were not only unanimous, but generous, joyous—with nothing bitter or defiant about them. And now came a curious scene. Mr. Speaker arose to return thanks; and, impelled by a spontaneous impulse, every Member uncovered, and the spectator saw a sight which has not been seen for many a year—a full House of Members, all with their hats off. Mr. Speaker's address was very appropriate, but he could hardly proceed, so strong were his emotions. It was the only time during his career that he was unequal to his duties. When he sat down again, there rang out another cordial, unanimous cheer, long continued—now sinking, and again and again renewed, and then all was over. Members put on their hats, and most of them left the House. But it was easy to see as they came out that many of them had been deeply moved by what they had heard and seen. Mr. Speaker, then, is now to retire. His salary is £6,000 a year, and a furnished House. His reward is to be a peerage, and a pension of £4,000 a year. It has been usual to give retiring Speakers a pension of this amount for two lives, but Mr. Lefevre has no sons to inherit his honours; the pension for a second life has not, therefore, been deemed necessary.

THE CITY AND THE MINISTRY.—The "merchants, bankers, traders, and electors of the City of London," assembled in the Guildhall on Friday week (the 13th), to pass a vote of confidence in the Government. A large number of working men were present, and the hall was too crowded for comfort. The Lord Mayor took the chair about two o'clock. The first resolution was moved by Mr. Raikes Currie, who described Sir John Bowring as "a man of the people," the pupil of Bentham, a member of the peace party, a most intelligent and forbearing man. The main offence of Government was supporting him in a difficult position far from home. At the beginning of his speech, while describing the general course of the Government, Mr. Currie alluded to the state of the country as "flourishing." This drew from the "unemployed" in front of the platform shouts of refection, and fierce cries of "Shameful! twenty thousand of us are starving!" Mr. Currie having explained himself, then moved the following resolution:—"That Lord Palmerston, having undertaken the Government of this country under circumstances of extreme difficulty, and in the crisis of a great war, which he successfully carried to the issue of an honourable peace, is entitled to the thanks of the country; and having by an adverse vote of the House of Commons been in fact censured for his policy in reference to the proceedings at Canton, this meeting feels called upon to express its conviction, that from the position of affairs in China and the past proceedings there, no other course was fairly open to a British statesman, or was compatible with safety to the property and lives of our fellow-countrymen in that quarter, and with the honour and dignity of the nation." This resolution having been seconded by Mr. Dillon, Mr. Morley proposed an amendment the effect of which was that "no Government ought to retain the public confidence which does not steadily prosecute a domestic policy embodying the desires of the people for social and political progress, and promptly and firmly to grapple with those administrative evils, the calamitous power of which the late war so painfully disclosed." About 130 hands were held up for the amendment. The original resolution was then carried by an overwhelming majority. These resolutions were formally presented to Lord Palmerston on Monday by a deputation appointed for that purpose, the Lord Mayor being at its head.

## INNER LIFE OF THE HOUSE OF COMMONS—NO. XXXVI.

THE House is fast dwindling away, and I retire before our paper appears, will have wholly vanished. On Monday evening, when Sir Fitzroy Kelly was enforcing the claims of our old friend, the Nawab of Surat, there were but seven members present, including the Speaker. We have therefore no events to record—excepting, indeed, the appearance of Mr. George Hudson once more may be considered one worth noticing. The Hon. Member has been absent the whole of this session and the last; but on Monday he once again made his appearance in the Lobby, went into the House, and shook hands with the Speaker. It is his intention again to present himself to the electors of Sunderland, and report says that he is likely to be returned. It is true he has not for the last two sessions done much in the way of representing the interests of his constituents in Parliament; but this neglect will probably be forgiven, and set against his splendid achievements in former days, in improving the port of Sunderland, building docks, &c. Having nothing specially to record of doings in Parliament, we shall take occasion to say something concerning the way in which the House expresses its approbation or dissent.

## "HEAR! HEAR! HEAR!"

The cheering of the House is akin to that of all other popular assemblies in the country. At a theatre, the audience expresses its pleasure by clapping of hands and stamping of feet; and the same practice is adopted at the Exeter Hall and other religious gatherings. At a public dinner, the knocking of the butt-end of the wine-glasses is the favourite mode; and at public political meetings, the enthusiasm is given vent in the old English style of three-times-three hurrahs. But in the House of Commons there are no clapping of hands, stamping of feet, no hurrahs. The admiration of the speaker there is expressed by the cries of "Hear! hear! hear!" and when the enthusiasm of the House is thoroughly aroused, the noise made by the repetition of this word, is as great as if the members were to rise up and give a regular three-times-three. When the expression of approbation is partial, and not very enthusiastic, the word "hear" is uttered in cadences of two or three repetitions to a cadence, beginning on lower C or thereabouts, and descending in semi-tones; but as the enthusiasm rises, the tone of the first "hear" in the cadence rises as the excitement rises, and the number of repetitions in each cadence increases to some six or seven. And it is remarkable how well the House, in its most excited moods, keeps time and tune. Exceptions may be occasionally heard: Mr. Ball, the member for Cambridgeshire, for instance, whose cheer is always a fifth below the key; but generally the unison is surprising, considering the number of the chambers. We have said that the word repeated is "hear," but with many of the members it rather approaches to "yah." The reason of this is, first, that it is not easy to pronounce an aspirate in rapid succession; and second, the substitution is strictly consistent with the pronunciation of the English language generally adopted by swells. According to their system, "I is 'aw,' going 'gawing,' yes 'yar e,' and hear 'yah.' Even in church you may sometimes hear this modern style of pronouncing the English language. A friend of ours gave us an instance the other day, of a supremely ridiculous character. A young swell was in the desk, with a glass in one eye, "reading himself in," and when he came to the words "He that hath ears to hear let him hear," he traversed them thus, "He that hath yahs to yah let him yah."

The word "hear" does not, however, always express approbation. Sometimes it is simply used to call attention, like a note of admiration at the end of a sentence, when some listener especially interested thinks that what has been uttered is specially important. An admission, it may be, is made by the speaker which an opponent deems favourable to his own view, and he cries "Hear! hear!" to fix the attention of the House. Very often these admissions, however, are followed by something which completely destroys their value; and then it is the turn of the friend of the speaker to cheer. But the cheers then are "ironical," and often verge towards a defiant tone, as much as to say, "There, Mr. So and So, take your change out of that," or towards a deriding laugh; and not unfrequently resolve themselves into a chorus of mirth. We remember a remarkable instance of this "turning the tables" upon an opponent. The question of Italy and its wrongs was before the House, and Mr. Bowyer, "the Pope's advocate," had been speaking in favour of his master, and trying to show that matters, at least in the Papal states, were not so bad as they seemed—were, moreover, improving—and, if left alone, would gradually, as in the case of other nations, work themselves, by a sort of natural fermentation, free of the evils which had been distiled upon. After this, Mr. Gladstone, who sits on the bench first above Mr. Bowyer, arose, and began somewhat thus:—"I hold, Sir, with the Honourable Member below me, that many states in which despotism prevailed, with all its consequences of suffering and crime, have worked themselves, in a quiet and healthful way, clear of these evils—(hear, hear, from Mr. Bowyer, delighted with such an admission from such an eminent authority)—but these were *civil* despots. They have been, and may be, cured by quiet means, and without the employment of force; but ecclesiastical despots, never." (Loud cheering of a defiant kind, and Mr. Bowyer looking exceedingly blank.) Sometimes, but not often, the House is very solemn in its cheering; but this happens only when it is thinly attended, never when it is full. We remember an instance. Mr. Drummond, that strange bundle of wisdom and eccentricity, was speaking, and the House was listening with profound attention to what he was saying. The subject was the National Gallery, and he had somehow, we know not how, but in his own way, dragged in "the mission of art," and thus he spake:—"Do you know what the proper duty of art is? Perhaps not. Well, I will tell you. It is to express in poetry, music, painting, sculpture, or architecture, some deep emotion of the soul, which can be expressed by no other means; and, if it do not do these, I would not give a straw for all its productions." And straightway there came forth a deeply solemn murmur of "Hear! hear!" in a manner so serious as clearly to show that the Honourable Member had struck a chord which is not often touched in that House.

## "OH! OH!" "DIVIDE," "VIDE," "VIDE."

As the House has its own way of expressing its approval, so it is unique in its mode of uttering its disapprobation. At a theatre, and at public meetings, hissing and groaning are the favourite modes of showing an actor or orator that he is not a favourite; but in the House of Commons the method is different. Formerly, indeed, all sorts of noises were made to put down an unpopular or untimely speaker—stamping of feet, whistling, barking, crowing, &c.; but this was in the "good old times," so much lauded by some people, when "there were none but gentlemen in the House." Since the Reform Bill, the House has gradually worked itself free of these extraordinary sounds, and now expresses its disapprobation by simply crying, "Oh! Oh!" or "Divide! Divide!" There is a difference, however, of meaning in these words. The former are used to express astonishment. Thus, when a member makes a statement of rather a bold character, it is met with the cries of "Oh! Oh!" and it is remarkable what a deal of contemptuous meaning can be thrown into these words by the mode in which they are uttered. Sometimes it is evident that the insinuation is meant to be conveyed that the speaker is not telling the truth. The latter word is used when the House is wearied, and some second or third-rate speaker is "stopping the way" to a division. Mr. Warner, for instance, or Mr. Hadfield, arises after Lord Palmerston has spoken, and the House, indignant at such presumption, first bursts out into a shout of "Oh! Oh! Oh!" to express its astonishment. But when the speaker is proof against this, the cry of "Divide! Divide!" or rather, "Vide! Vide!" arises from all parts of the House; and unless the speaker has lungs of brass he is eventually sure to be put down, although we have known the struggle continue a very long time, and in some cases the speaker has actually wearied the noisy members into silence by his pertinacity.

NEW INDIAN BISHOPS.—Lord Palmerston, Mr. Vernon Smith, the President of the Board of Control, and the Chairman of the East India Company, have received from the Archbishops of Canterbury and York, the Bishop of London, and the other ecclesiastics and laymen who form the governing body of the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts, a memorial strongly pressing the creation, without delay, of three new Indian bishoprics—one at Agra, for the northern province, to be formed out of the present diocese of Calcutta; one at Lahore, for the Punjab, to be formed out of the present diocese of Calcutta; and one for the missionary province of Tinnevely, to be formed out of the present diocese of Madras.



## Imperial Parliament.

FRIDAY, MARCH 13.  
HOUSE OF LORDS.

THE LAW OF LIREL.

Lord CAMPBELL gave notice that, owing to the impending dissolution of Parliament, he did not propose to proceed any further at present with the committee on the freedom of reports of public meetings, &c.

EXPENSES OF THE PERSIAN WAR.

The Marquis of CLACKMACK moved for the correspondence connected with the cost of the expedition to Persia. It appeared that half the expense was to be charged to the revenue of India; but, considering that the normal condition of India was a deficit, amounting latterly to £2,000,000 a year, and that the new loans proposed had not been taken up, it was hard to see how the Indian Government was to find the money.

The Earl of MALMESBURY complained that the country, on the eve of a dissolution, was left in complete ignorance as to the Persian war. He was aware that, while he was speaking, the treaty could not be laid before Parliament until it had been ratified; but still he thought a sketch of its details might be afforded before the dissolution.

The Earl of CLACKMACK, after this appeal from Lord Malmesbury, proceeded to lay before the House the chief stipulations of the treaty, the substance of which has already appeared in this journal.

The Earl of ELLENBOROUGH thought the war was justifiable if it aimed alone at preventing the occupation of Herat, the gate of India, by the Persians. Whatever might be said to the contrary, and though Russia for the time might have reconsidered her position and refrained from hostile advances, it was certain that the march of a Russian army on India was no impossibility. It must never be forgotten that our empire in the East was founded by the sword and must be maintained by the sword. It was on well equipped, well disciplined, and well commanded armies that our ascendancy in India depended. Now, when he looked back on the events of the last few months, the prospect of affairs in the East filled him with dismay. We had two wars on our hands, both owing to misappointments. To Sir John Bowring we were indebted for the Chinese war, and to Mr. Murray for that with Persia. The talent required to manage Oriental wars was altogether peculiar, and however great Mr. Murray's ability might have been in Europe he was quite incompetent to manage matters in the East.

The Earl of ALBEMARLE defended Mr. Murray, and after some further discussion, the motion was agreed to.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

THE PERSIAN WAR.

Lord PALMERSTON, in reply to questions from Sir A. Campbell and Mr. Layard, stated that the British protectorate over Persian subjects when engaged in the service of British representatives in Persia would be discontinued if their Powers would follow the example. The practice he admitted to involve some inconvenience. The treaty now concluded with the Persian Ambassador at Paris contained better terms than had been previously offered during the negotiations at Constantinople.

THE SPEAKER'S PENSION.

The Queen's answer to the address of the Commons respecting the Speaker being brought up, Lord PALMERSTON, in committee of the whole House, moved that a sum of £4,000 per annum should be placed at the disposal of the Crown for the purpose of making a retiring allowance to Mr. Shaw Lefevre, the grant to continue during the life of that Right Hon. Gentleman.

SATURDAY, MARCH 14.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

The House of Commons sat for a short time on Saturday.

The report upon the Speaker's annuity was brought up, and agreed to. On the order for the second reading of the Mutiny Bill, a conversation took place upon the subject of a clause exempting private houses in Scotland from the liability of having soldiers billeted upon them. The Bill, as well as the Marine Mutiny Bill, was read a second time.

Mr. S. ESTCOTE expressed his regret at the unavoidable withdrawal of the Savings Banks' Bill, introduced by the Chancellor of the Exchequer, which, in his opinion, would be a great improvement on the existing law.

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER signified his intention to re-introduce it on the next Parliament.

The Exchequer-bills Bill and the Appropriation Bill were brought in and read a first time.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 16.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

THE APPEAL TO THE COUNTRY.

On the motion for the second reading of the Income-tax Bill.

The Earl of DERBY rose to call the attention of their Lordships to the circumstances under which the present appeal is made to the country. After referring to and regretting the position of financial affairs, which he thought must result in the Government having to meet a deficiency of no less than £6,500,000 in 1858, he said that nothing but urgent and systematic economy could avail us. On the army and navy but small reductions could be made; but the Miscellaneous Estimates had been swelled to a formidable amount by the extravagance of Parliaments, and on those much saving might be effected. The system of economy on which the country must mainly depend was, however, after all, its policy. The Government must substitute a reasonable, conciliatory spirit for a tone of braggadocio and menace; they must prepare not to meddle with the internal concerns of any nation, nor to use a language of threat and intimidation to Powers which, even though the weakest, were still too proud to listen to it. With such a system, indeed, might the Government keep down the expenditure of the army; but if, on the contrary, it adopted the other dangerous principle, and if the discretion or indiscretion of officials was to commit the country to a war, they must give up, once for all, the idea of economy, arm themselves cap-a-pie, and prepare to meet all comers at all times. Referring to the recent decision come to by the House of Commons with regard to the affairs of China, Lord Derby denied that the Government had any just cause for complaint at the steps which had been taken, or that any party or parties had been actuated by the motive of embarrassing Her Majesty's Government. It was not Parliament which had forced Ministers to take on themselves the responsibility of their subordinates' conduct; it was Ministers who had assumed it voluntarily. Had the Government, when the papers were laid before Parliament, announced then that they intended to do what they had done since, and that they would send out plenipotentiaries to inquire into the management of affairs at Canton, little more would have been heard from Parliament on the subject. But, not doing this, when Members must reluctantly but conscientiously vote as they had done in the recent decision of the House of Commons, there arose the cry of unnatural coalition and unfair combination. That charge was a gross calumny, and he repelled it as such. His Lordship even said that the mere fact of that motion having been brought forward by Mr. Cobden indisposed some members of the Conservative party to act in support of it at all. Lord Derby then proceeded to refer to foreign affairs, condemning some maritime concessions made by Lord Palmerston during the Conference at Paris, and also most strongly the course taken in the Neapolitan affair. He professed his utter ignorance of the policy which the country was to secure by supporting Lord Palmerston. He thought it was difficult to recognise that Minister amid the many attributes, all more or less inconsistent with each other, ascribed to him by his various supporters, and he even believed, out of the many portraits, Lord Palmerston would have great difficulty in recognising himself. But that for which Lord Derby most condemned him was the ease with which he yielded up his convictions on the least external pressure, giving as instances the way in which the question of the tea duties had been treated, and his conduct with regard to Sir John M'Neill and Colonel Tulloch. In conclusion, Lord Derby said that, if Lord Palmerston adhered to a conciliatory policy abroad and acted firmly in resisting unneeded for innovations at home, he would find no warmer or more consistent supporters than the much abused and vilified Conservative party. But if he pursued a contrary course of action, he hoped and believed that the Conservatives would be strong enough to save him from his own supporters and to check him in his downward course.

Lord GRANVILLE justified the Ministry, both in supporting their subordinates against the censure of the Legislature, and in dissolving Parliament when that censure had been voted by a majority in the House of Commons. He explained the course pursued by the Government with regard to Sir John M'Neill and Colonel Tulloch, and adverted to the skill with which Lord Derby had avoided noticing the many favourable aspects which the foreign relations of this country now presented. For the same reasons Lord Derby had dwelt but little upon the Persian war, which had so signally maintained the honour and interests of this country. Referring to the vote on the Chinese question, Lord Derby expressed his belief in the solemn pledge given by Lord Derby, but at the same time went at some length into the question of some statements made by the "Press" newspaper with reference to a combination between Mr. Gladstone and the Conservative party. He vindicated the Episcopal Bench from the charge of latitudinarianism, which had been hinted against some members of it, and regretted that Lord Derby should have made an almost personal attack upon Lord Palmerston. The best answer he could make to that attack was to refer for a moment to Lord Derby's anxiety to secure the official services of Lord Palmerston when he was seeking to form an Administration in 1855.

The Earl of MALMESBURY complained of this reiteration of the charge of coalition, after the denial given by Lord Derby. He renewed that denial on his own account.

The Earl of HARDWICKE also expressed deep indignation at the general tone in which Lord Derby's explanation had been noticed by Lord Granville. It was, he

thought, neither courteous, nor even honourable, so to act in the face of Lord Derby's solemn denial of any coalition with any party.

Earl GRANVILLE briefly explained, and their Lordships adjourned.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

TELEGRAPH TO INDIA.

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER, replying to Sir D. Norreys, stated that the Government had determined to co-operate in the establishment of a telegraphic line of communication with India by the route of Seleucia and the Persian Gulf.

The Mutiny Bill and the Marine Mutiny Bill were passed through committee. The Appropriation Bill was read a second time.

Other bills having been advanced a step respectively, the House adjourned at half-past six.

TUESDAY, MARCH 17.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

CHINA.

A question urged by the Earl of Hardwicke, relative to the production of papers, provoked a lively conversation touching the pending hostilities in China. In the course of this discussion, Earl Granville renewed his defence of Sir J. Bowring, while Earl Grey, the Earl of Ellenborough, and the Earl of Derby, enforced the opinions they had previously expressed, that the British Commissioner at Hong Kong had committed many errors, and incurred very serious responsibility.

The Earl of ELLENBOROUGH made several suggestions for improving the efficiency of the troops. He then passed on to deplore French co-operation with British arms in China, and concluded by declaring that much time might be saved by employing the troops set free by the Persian treaty, instead of those about to be sent from England.

Lord Palmerston having thanked Lord Ellenborough for his advice, the matter dropped; and several bills having been forwarded a stage, their Lordships adjourned.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

THE SOUND DUES.

Mr. BRAMLEY MOORE having called attention to the convention just concluded for the capitalisation of the Sound dues.

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER explained its general object (as detailed in another place in this journal), and stated that the share to be paid by this country towards redeeming these dues would be £1,125,000.

THE NEAPOLITAN QUESTION.

Mr. DISRAELI inquired whether it was correct, as had been reported, that Her Majesty's Government had offered to a foreign Power, if any attempt to establish Republican institutions were made in the south of Italy, to interfere, by force of arms if necessary, to prevent them.

Lord PALMERSTON said there had been no such offer.

SIR JOHN M'NEILL AND COLONEL TULLOCH.

Viscount CASTLEREAGH appeared at the bar, bringing up Her Majesty's gracious reply to the address of the Commons praying for some special mark of favour towards Sir J. M'Neill and Colonel Tulloch. In this reply it was announced that directions had been given by the Crown to carry out the intentions expressed in the resolution of the House.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 18.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

The House of Lords met on Wednesday, but no business of leading importance was transacted. The following bills were read a third time and passed, viz.: Income-Tax Bill, Indemnity Bill, Copyhold and Inclosure Commissions, &c., Bill, Extra-Parochial Places Bill (as amended), and Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction Bill.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

MR. SPEAKER'S RETIREMENT BILL.

This bill was read a third time and passed.

The SPEAKER said he should not do justice to his own feelings if he did not, on this last stage of the bill, express most gratefully and most respectfully to the House his sincere acknowledgments of this mark of his humble services in the chair, and the noble and generous manner in which those services had been received.

Sir G. GREY moved that what Mr. Speaker had said be entered upon the records of the House.

Mr. WALFORD seconded the motion, which was agreed to.

MINISTERS' MONEY (IRELAND) BILL.

Mr. FAGAN moved the second reading of this bill. He knew there could be no chance of passing it through the various stages this Session, but he was very anxious that the House, by reading the bill a second time, should affirm the principle on which it was based.

Mr. BAGWELL seconded the motion, which was supported by Mr. Meagher.

Mr. HORSMAN said that when the bill was introduced, he promised that he would state on the second reading what course Government would pursue in reference to it. He had given much consideration to the matter, and he found that a great portion of the tax was raised in Dublin, where it was not much objected to. At the same time, reviewing the whole of the circumstances, the Government had come to the conclusion to support the second reading of the bill.

Mr. G. A. HAMILTON thought the second reading of the bill would prove a greater evil than those which the promoters of the measure condemned. He moved, as an amendment, that the bill be read a second time that day three months.

Admiral JONES seconded the motion.

After some discussion, in the course of which Lord Palmerston protested against a variety of extraneous topics which were introduced by several Scotch members,

The amendment was negatived, and the order for the second reading was agreed to.

The Mutiny and Marine Mutiny Bills were read a third time and passed.

Some other business having been gone through, the House adjourned till Saturday.

LORD JOHN RUSSELL IN THE CITY.

On Thursday afternoon a densely crowded meeting of the friends and supporters of Lord J. Russell, was held in the large room of the London Tavern. Amongst the gentlemen present were Mr. S. Warren, M.P., Mr. Hankey, M.P., Mr. Moffatt, M.P.; Aldermen Humphrey and Salomons; Mr. Gurney (banker), Mr. Miller Christie, Mr. Bennock, and Mr. Edwin James, Q.C.

Mr. Thomas Hankey, M.P., was called to the chair.

The Noble Lord on entering was received with the greatest enthusiasm, and cries were raised of "Adjourn to the Guildhall." This, however, was declared to be impossible; and silence being restored, the Noble Lord proceeded with his address. "He was there," he said, "to appeal against the decision of a society calling itself the 'City of London Liberal Registration,' that wished to exclude him from the representation of the City. If a gentleman wished to discharge his duties as his gamekeeper, or if a merchant sought to change his clerk or his porter, he would not do so without first giving him a hearing. He would say—'Join (roars of laughter), you are getting old; you have made a few mistakes, and I wish that you would leave to make way for a young man from Northampton.' (Renewed laughter.) He would say that, and give 'John' an opportunity of urging in reply that all his energies were not quite gone, and that he was good for five or six years longer. This Registration Society, however, had followed an opposite course. They had dismissed him without a hearing, and he now appealed to the citizens of London to say whether they ratified that determination." The Noble Lord then proceeded to review his political career since he was last elected, justifying his votes in Parliament, and the course he had taken generally with regard to the questions of the day.

At the close of his Lordship's speech the following resolution was moved and carried:—"That this meeting has heard with satisfaction the manly determination of Lord John Russell to appeal to the free suffrages of the independent electors of the City of London. That they hold this course to be such as becomes a candidate for the representation of this important constituency; and looking to Lord J. Russell's eminent past services in the cause of civil and religious liberty, and in the full confidence that he will continue to be the advocate and promoter of liberal measures, they pledge themselves to give him their utmost support."

MR. DISRAELI AND HIS CONSTITUENTS.

Mr. DISRAELI has published an address to his constituents, in which he says:—"Since the announcement of the dissolution, the Minister has declared that his agents in China will be superseded, thus acknowledging the justness of the vote of the House of Commons. It is clear, therefore, that the plea for dissolution is a pretext. What then is the real object? To waste a year. Lord Palmerston is an eminent man, who has deserved well of his country; but as Prime Minister he occupies a false position. He is the Tory chief of a Radical Cabinet. With no domestic policy, he is obliged to divert the attention of the people, from the consideration of their own affairs, to the distraction of foreign politics. His external system is turbulent and aggressive, that his rule at home may be tranquil and unassailed. Hence arise excessive expenditure, heavy taxation, and the stoppage of all social improvement. His scheme of conduct is so devoid of all political principle that when forced to appeal to the people his only claim to their confidence is his name. Such arts and resources may suit the despotic ruler of a continental State exhausted by revolutions, but they do not become a British Minister governing a country proud, free, and progressive, animated by glorious traditions, and aspiring to future excellence. The general policy which I would enforce at this juncture may be contained in these words—Honourable peace, reduced taxation, and social improvement."

MR. COBDEN AT MANCHESTER.

Mr. COBDEN and Mr. Gibson addressed the electors of Manchester on Wednesday. Mr. Cobden, in a powerful speech, went over Lord Palmerston's career for the last fifty years—not in the most favourable manner—and was loudly cheered when, towards the conclusion of his remarks, he said, "Is this the man to whom, at the age of seventy-three, the House of Commons is to sacrifice its independence? I for one will not fall down before the brazen image." With regard to the present election for Manchester, he said "It was the electors of Manchester, and not the present members, who were on their trial before the country. If Manchester wanted to exchange the proud distinction it enjoyed of having two men to represent it who could grapple with other men in that proud arena of intellectual gladiatorialship—the House of Commons, and enable Manchester, at all events, to count as something in the eyes of the world, then let the electors keep their present members. If, on the other hand, they thought they had acquired fame and distinction enough, and wanted to fall into utter insignificance, then let them return the two men who were the new candidates for their suffrages." The cheering during this speech exceeded anything of the kind ever heard in the Hall, even in the free-trade struggle.

ROYAL BRITISH BANK.—Mr. Eadaile was re-examined on Wednesday. His replies were of much the same character as before. He admitted, for instance, that he may personally have represented to a Mr. Goddard, in June 1856, that the affairs of the Bank were in a flourishing condition. He also admitted that he was aware of the existence of Mr. Cameron's "private ledger," and that extraordinary pains were taken in 1855 or 1856 to bring Sir James Matheson into the concern. A letter from Mr. Eadaile to Mr. Cameron was read, in which Sir James and others were evidently alluded to as "game."

ELECTION INTELLIGENCE.

BRISTOL.—Major Reed retires to contest Finsbury. Mr. Norris, a London Common Councilman, is a Liberal candidate. Mr. Barr, late High Sheriff of Berks, formerly a Derbyite, now offers himself as one having no hostile feeling to Lord Palmerston.

ANGLESEY BOROUGH.—Mr. Stanley, the present member for Chester, will succeed Lord George Paget, who retires.

AYLESBURY.—We stated last week that Mr. Layard was not likely to contest the borough. We have since been led to understand that the Hon. Gentleman is pursuing an active and encouraging canvass.

AYRSHIRE.—Lord James Stuart will appear in opposition to Sir James Fergusson.

ARMAGH COUNTY.—Two Conservatives are in the field—Sir William Verner, Bart., and Maxsell Charles Close, Esq., eldest son of Colonel Close, of Drummanagher Castle.

AVON.—Mr. A. Finlay, of Toward Castle, is in the field in opposition to Sir A. Campbell.

BEDFORD.—Mr. Barnard, the banker, has come forward on the Liberal interest as a second candidate for this borough. The two sitting members, Mr. Samuel Whitbread and Captain Stuart, have commenced their canvass.

BERWICK-ON-TWEED.—Four candidates are contesting this borough—viz., Mr. Majumdar, one of the present Liberal members; Captain Gordon, a cousin of the Earl of Aberdeen; and Messrs. M. Forster and J. Stapleton, two gentlemen who were elected in 1852, and subsequently unseated on petition.

BRADFORD.—Mr. Titus Salt has issued an address to the electors, in which he states that, under present circumstances, he does not feel justified in soliciting the suffrages of his fellow-townsmen.

BUCKS.—A rumour prevails that two Liberals will be started in conjunction with the Hon. C. Cavendish, in opposition to Mr. Disraeli and Mr. Du Pre. Mr. Abram Darby, of Stokecourt, and Mr. Rice R. Clayton, are the gentlemen referred to as likely to become candidates.

CLACKMANNAN AND KINROSS.—Lord Melgund has accepted a requisition from the Liberal electors, and has issued his address.

CANTERBURY.—Mr. Purton Cooper, Q.C., Sir William Somerville, Mr. C. M. Longbottom, Mr. Henry Butler Jonstone, are in the field.

CARDIGAN BOROUGH.—Mr. J. Lloyd Davies, has issued an address declining to contest these boroughs.

CRICKLADE.—Mr. Charles Monk has addressed the electors as a candidate in the Ministerial interest.

CAMBRIDGE.—Mr. Mowatt retires. Mr. J. Hibbert, Liberal, and Mr. K. Macaulay, Q.C., Conservative, offer themselves.

DEVON (NORTH).—Mr. J. S. Buck has resigned, and the only remaining candidates are Sir H. Northcote and the Hon. Mr. Trefusis, eldest son of Lord Clinton.

DOVER.—Lord Chichester and Mr. Rice retire, and Mr. R. Osborne and Captain Rice, son of the present Member, offer themselves. Sir George Clark, Peelite, has been invited to contest the borough.

DUMFRIES BURGHS.—Mr. Ewart is again a candidate, but an opponent to his re-election has appeared in the person of Mr. Hauney, the author of "Salire and Satirists," and other well-known works.

EXETER.—Sir J. Duckworth, the present Member, finding the Conservative party divided between himself and Mr. R. S. Gard, has resigned, so that the candidates now in the field are Mr. Divett (Liberal) and Mr. Gard (Conservative).

FALKIRK BURGHS.—Mr. Baird has intimated his intention of retiring. Mr. George Baird, his brother, has addressed the electors, offering himself on Liberal-Conservative principles.

FIFESHIRE.—Mr. Balfour, of Balbirnie, has been mentioned as a probable candidate for this county.

GLASGOW.—There are now three candidates for this city—viz., Mr. Alexander Hastie, the sitting member; Mr. Buchanan, who took his seat recently; and Mr. Robert Dalglish.

HYTHE.—Mr. E. D. Brockman retires, and Sir J. W. Ramsden and Mr. W. G. Thomson, a director of the South-Eastern Railway, offer themselves on Liberal principles.

HORSHAM.—Mr. Scott, the deputy-chairman of the London and Brighton Railway Company, has started in opposition to Mr. Fitzgerald.

HUDDESFIELD.—Lord Goderich retires, to stand for the West Riding, and Mr. Arkroyd has appeared as a candidate.

HULL.—Mr. James Clay, one of the present members, and the Honourable Mr. William Henry Forrester Denison, son of Lord Londesborough, will be the Liberal candidates. Mr. W. D. Seymour has announced his retirement.

KIDDERMINSTER.—Mr. Boycott, who unsuccessfully opposed Mr. Lowe on his appointment to the office of Vice-President to the Board of Trade, has issued an address to the electors, placing his services at their disposal.

LINCOLNSHIRE.—Lord Burghley retires from the representation of South Lincolnshire, having been solicited to stand for North Northamptonshire.

LONDON, CITY OF.—Lord J. Russell has issued an address, intimating his intention of appearing as a candidate. Mr. Alderman Rose has yielded to the solicitations of his friends, and come forward.

MANCHESTER.—Mr. Bright has issued his address from Rome. There is a perfect fever of excitement in the town, and the promoters of the requisition to Mr. Lowe and Sir J. Potter speak confidently of success. The requisition has received, it is said, upwards of 4,000 signatures.

MIDDERBURY.—Mr. Warren is to be opposed by Mr. T. D. Hibbert, a barrister, who will give Lord Palmerston an independent support.

PORTSMOUTH.—Major-General Sir John Smith and Captain Richard Lambert, both Liberals, have taken the field in opposition to Sir F. Baring and Lord Monk.

SANDWICH.—In addition to Mr. James Macgregor (the Conservative) there are three Liberals in the field. Mr. E. Knatchbull Huggess, Lord C. Paget, and Mr. J. Lang. Lord C. Clinton does not intend to offer himself again.

STROUD.—Mr. Turner has issued an address, announcing his intention of opposing the return of Mr. Horsman and Mr. Scrope.

SUSSEX (EAST).—There are four candidates in the field—two Liberals and two Tories—viz., Mr. Fuller, Lord Pevensy, Mr. Dodson (who contested the county at a former election), and Mr. Cavendish.

SALISBURY.—Mr. Chaplin has resigned his seat, and Mr. M. H. Marsh offers himself as a candidate on the Liberal interest. A new candidate has entered the lists in the person of Mr. James Campbell, who is in favour of extending the borough suffrage, the ballot, and of Mr. Locke King's motion, and opposed to church rates and the grant to Maynooth.

SHEFFIELD.—The Conservative candidate, Mr. Overend, Q.C., is trying to make way in this constituency by extravagant professions of faith in Lord Palmerston.

SOUTHWARK.—We understand that Mr. Aspley Pellatt has retired from the contest. Mr. Serjeant Ballantine is in the field.

TAUNTON.—The Hon. W. F. Campbell, son of the Lord Chief Justice of England, has appeared as a candidate.

TIVERTON.—An opposition to Lord Palmerston is threatened by Mr. J. Heron Maxwell, a Conservative.

WEXFORD (COUNTY).—Sir Thomas Esmonde, of Johnstown Castle, and Mr. Ram, of Gorey, are named as the opponents of the present members.

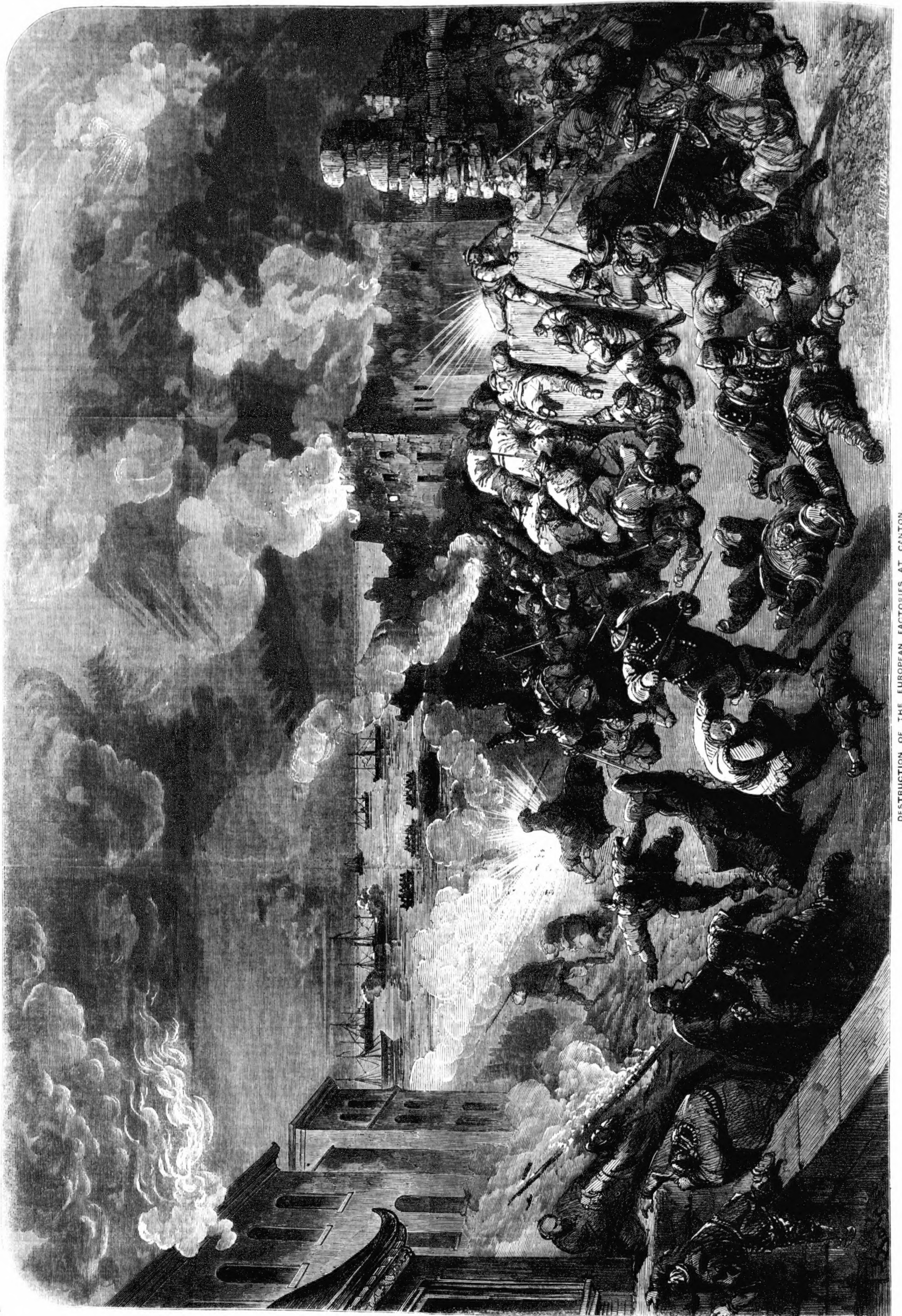
WORKSTER.—Alderman Sidney took the field on Tuesday afternoon.

YORKSHIRE (WEST RIDING).—Mr. Cobden has issued a farewell address.

THE DESTRUCTION OF THE FACTORIES AT CANTON.

In a previous number we described the destruction of the European factories at Canton. This measure, on the part of the Chinese, immediately followed the commencement of hostilities by the English. As soon as our ships opened fire, a rush was made to the factories, and, having first gone through the delightful labour of pillaging them, the Chinese set them in flames. This being perceived by the British admiral, he immediately opened fire upon the incendiaries, and prematurely hastened their departure from the scene of action by sending a few shells amongst them. These scenes our artist has represented on the following page.





DESTRUCTION OF THE EUROPEAN FACTORIES AT CANTON.





CALAIS PIER THE PACKET BOAT COMING IN.—PAINTED BY J. M. W. TURNER R.A.—FROM THE COLLECTION AT MARLBOROUGH HOUSE



## THE TURNER GALLERY.

CAUSES PIER: FISHING BOATS PREPARING FOR SEA—THE ENGLISH PACKET ARRIVING. 1803.

It were meet to commence the publication of a series of engravings from the works of the greatest of marine painters by "Calais Pier," which, with its twin picture of the "Shipwreck," may be regarded undeniably as the two grandest paintings that Joseph Mallard William Turner ever put his giant hand to. Marvellous composition; energy and action in every line; grandeur and colossal force in drawing; movement, atmosphere, almost sound breaking from waves which foam at the mouth, howling as waves possessed; figures astonishingly well drawn when we consider that the draughtsman was the same who made those bad copies from Titian in the Bedlamite but beautiful "Bacchus and Ariadne" picture that hangs close by; colour, form, perspective, chiaroscuro: when all of these are manifest, great and glorious, in one masterpiece, criticism almost becomes impotence; we can but bow and admire in reverence, as before the "Venus" of Vecelli, the "Belle Jardinière" of Sanzio, the "Judgment" of Buonarroti, the "Woman in the Temple" of Gerretz van Rhyne, who was called Rembrandt.

We are not among those irrational devotees of Turner who can expatiate with delight upon the hair-brained extravagances, the rain-bow smudges, the "mad women in mustard-pots," of his later period. We are not learned in the mysteries of the "scissors" or the "rainy fringe," or pea-green skies, crimson trees, saffron-coloured fish, or strange tawny water-lilies. The maddest pictures that Turner painted were to a certain extent sealed by the seal of his genius; but they were rhapsodies, not expositions. The key, if key there were to them, has never been in our possession, and, with all due respect to Mr. Ruskin, we would rather not possess it.

There are two periods in Turner's artistic career in which we can preserve our unimpaired admiration for the master: his wild, stormy, truthful period, now defying Claude, now braving Salvator, now wrestling with Wilson, as in "Calais Pier," the "Shipwreck," "Cattle in Water," "Greenwich Hospital," and "Bligh Sands;" and his magnificent, voluptuous, poetic period, to which we owe "Ulysses deriding Polyphemus," "Childe Harold's Pilgrimage," and the "Building of Carthage." When we come to "Jessica" and the "Exile and the Rock Limpet," we still admire, but pity is mingled with our admiration.

The "Calais Pier," depicted by Turner in 1803, is a very different scene to that described by Mr. Dickens in the last number of "Little Dorrit;" to that which Mr. Stanfield would paint now-a-days, and with which everyone of us who have accomplished the twelve hours' route to Paris are familiar. The "English Packet Arriving" is no trim Royal Mail steamer, but a sailing cutter crowded with strange-looking figures. The pier, too, is not the dapper-built rendezvous of Calais promenaders, but a crazy structure of timbers, crowded with squabbling *poissarres* encumbered by their fish. There are no little soldiers in baggy red trousers—no inquisitive *démonees*—no screaming hotel-touts—no equivocal English residents of Calais pulling bad cigars and scrutinising their sea-sick countrymen. But the scene is unmistakably Calais, and unmistakably French. The eager, lantern-jawed fishermen, their voluble, gesticulating wives and children, are as true to 1857 as to 1803.

The picture is painted throughout on the "old Wilsonian principles," that is, with deep-toned darks to bring out the lights; shadows, in some parts coal-black, and with almost night effects in the grays of the sky. The sky itself is nobly and learnedly drawn; the action of the boiling waves positively marvellous; though of the class once alluded to by some self-sufficient critic, as "soap suds and whitewash." Turner, according to Mr. Ruskin, justified himself under this criticism by affirming (and we believe him) that the sea was like "soap suds and whitewash." "What would they have it?" he asked, indignantly. "I wonder what they think the sea's like? I wish they'd been in it!"

For our own parts, it was our fortune some five months since to be on board an "English Packet," off this said Calais Pier, and to be in it and have our fill of "soap suds and whitewash." Those of our readers who have not yet gone down to the sea in ships, may gain a life-like impression of the wild waves in their furious moods by studying Turner's magnificent picture.

## THE CHINESE WAR.

We have the satisfaction of announcing to our readers that we shall be shortly in a position to publish, on the arrival of each mail from China, Sketches, from accredited correspondents, of the various Naval and Military operations that may arise out of our present differences with the authorities in that country. We have also obtained the promise, from the Commanding Officer of Engineers, of duplicate copies of the highly interesting series of photographs which it is intended shall be taken for the use of the corps while engaged in the Chinese waters. These photographs we shall have the satisfaction of reproducing in the columns of this journal.

## LIFE-SIZE PORTRAIT OF THE QUEEN.

(33 Inches by 25.)

The above engraving may still be obtained of any of the Agents for the "Illustrated Times." It will be sold with either back or current numbers of the paper at a charge of 2d. extra, but will not be sold separately.

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NOTICE.—The Trade and Public are informed that the present Number of the "Illustrated Times" is sold separately from the Postal District Map of London issued this day, but that the Map itself will on no account be sold separately from the Paper on this or on any future occasion.

\* \* \* To the many extra thousand purchasers of the present number of the "Illustrated Times," most of whom may possibly become acquainted with this journal for the first time, we would suggest, in the event of their desiring to continue it, that, to ensure copies, it will be necessary for them to give an order beforehand to some newsdealer. Country book-sellers, and many periodical dealers in large towns even, rarely provide themselves with a larger number of copies of a newspaper than they have a regular sale for.

## ILLUSTRATED TIMES.

SATURDAY, MARCH 21, 1857.

## LORD ELGIN IN CHINA.

THE ELGIN appointment is a compromise. Ministers will not condemn their present officials in China. That would be undignified, and it does not much matter that it would be honest and straightforward. But they will send out a Plenipotentiary to act far over their heads, to supercede them in matters of vital importance, and, in fact, to settle the affair on new instructions, so as to divert the public attention from the original action in the affair. What the instructions may be, nobody, of course, will be able to guess. Probably (as the country is not taking so very heartily to the war-cry, after all,) Lord Elgin will be authorised to hush affairs up peaceably, and let us trade honestly once more. But that will all depend on which line

our ministerial friends think most likely to fall in with the popular humour of a few months hence.

The country, we think, will take kindly enough to the individual selected for this important embassy. Lord Elgin (besides his special respectability in Scotland as the head of the Bruces) is a man whose abilities are very generally esteemed. He was one of Peel's men, and was liked when Governor-General of Canada, though the situation was trying, and some people doubted his "vigour." From his speeches we are of opinion that he has less of the red-tape element about him—the bureaucratic pedantic slang—than most of Peel's officials. He has shown spirit, vivacity—nay, even humour; qualities much more human than are generally found in such men, in our common-place generation. He is not rich, so can never hope to be a very high minister, now that ministries are so often joint-stock family affairs, founded on the union of a few men with immense rentals. Let us hope that he will secure a little place in history as a wise ambassador to a remarkable people, at a remarkable epoch of their history.

It is the fashion now to abuse the Chinese, just as in the last century it was the fashion to praise them. We used to judge them, then, from the accounts of the old Jesuits, who, being men of learning themselves, dwelt naturally on the learned aspect of the land. Fancy the Chinese judging of common Englishmen from the memoirs of Selden and Bacon, and the transactions of the Royal Society! Again, the literary men of Europe were inclined to exalt the Chinese, because they knew the high value set by them on the literary character. Who does not remember the passage in Gibbon's "Autobiography," where he begins his account of his family, by observing that the family of Confucius is the most illustrious in the world? There was much that affected the imagination in every way, in what Europe at that time heard of the far Cathay.

China has lost this romantic character, because Englishmen have come in contact with the sea-port populations of China, and seen the country under its worst aspect. The common newspaper accounts, now, are of the rabble of the Chinese population, of the ugliest, vilest, sordid, side of Chinese life. We are judging of all China from this experience. Yet it is certain, that there must be in China and in Chinese society, something of that excellence which is reflected in their arts, their inventions, the sayings of their sages, and the duration of their institutions. It is likewise obvious, that unless we recognise this in discussing them and dealing with them, we shall never establish a satisfactory policy. War on their out-skirts may last for a long time, and will seriously interrupt commerce; but war only, will never carry our point. A conquest is impossible, and anything less will produce harm, almost as great as the good.

Lord Elgin's task will be made difficult by the Bowring proceedings—which have turned the people's natural old jealousy of foreigners into rage and ferocity. There is a vast deal of blood to be wiped up before the coast is clear for diplomacy. That, after a while, diplomacy will be quite practicable, however, is plain enough. The Chinese, as Yeh's letters show, are quite capable of refined intellectual discussion; and their prejudices will wear away, just as (according to Hue) many of their old characteristics are wearing away. All we urge is, that they must not be treated as mere savages,—as it, in fact, they were like those Mosquito Indians, about whom our politicians were so wonderfully tender and sympathetic (when it suited the political book) last year. The present tone of thinking and talking about these people, is in fact harsh and cruel; and Lord Elgin must go out with a calmer mind than most friends of Government, if he means to serve the state well.

We accept the Elgin appointment as a compromise, as we said above. We think it open to no personal objection, though after all it is a little amusing, after all we have heard about the great importance of Bowring's knowledge of "Chinese," to see a man sent out over his head, who is chiefly known in politics for his knowledge of Canada.

## POSTAL DISTRICT MAP OF LONDON

WITH the present number of the "Illustrated Times" we publish the Postal District Map of London which has been promised for some weeks past in the columns of this paper. We can say, without fear of contradiction, not merely that so excellent a map has not heretofore been published at anything approaching the price at which this is issued, but also that a map of its size and quality has never been previously produced by the agency of surface printing. It has been engraved in relief by M. Gillot, of Paris, by a new process of his own invention; and we may mention in proof of its accuracy that it is a fac-simile of the largest and best map of London in existence—namely, that engraved by Mr. B. R. Davies,\* and, moreover, that it is the one selected by the Postmaster-General for the use of the London and Provincial Post-offices.

It is almost unnecessary to call attention to the great utility of a Map of London of this character. The recent subdivision of the metropolis and its environs into Postal Districts, makes the possession of a first-class Map indispensable to every letter-writer in the kingdom, who may be at all desirous of assisting the Post-office in carrying out those beneficial changes to which we have alluded in another page. This Map, in conjunction with the directory of the streets and places in London and its environs issued by the Post-office authorities, and sold to the public for a penny, will enable any one to ascertain with facility, not alone the postal district of a particular street, but will also enable him to find out its precise geographical position. But beyond its value for mere Postal purposes, a Map, upon a large scale, of the Metropolis of the British Empire, is certainly an object the possession of which few persons, we should conceive, would deny themselves, when it can be secured at so moderate a cost as that set upon the one which we this day issue to the subscribers to the "Illustrated Times."

MR. HANNAY, the author of "Singleton Fontenoy," "Eastace Conyers," and other books of mark, and a writer in the first periodicals in England, has issued an address to the Electors of the Dumfries Burghs, asking their suffrages at the forthcoming election. Mr. Hannay has contributed numerous political articles to the "Illustrated Times" from its commencement, and we confess that we should hail his return to Parliament with more than ordinary satisfaction. Such of our readers as may be voters in the Dumfries district of Burghs (many of whom will remember that Mr. Hannay's father contested the representation with General Sharpe in 1832 and 1835) will, we are sure, give due consideration to his claims to represent them; and if they succeed in placing him at the head of the poll, we feel assured that their choice will have fallen on a man of great talent and undoubted independence, whose connection with them will do them honour in every way.

\* Mr. B. R. Davies, of 16, George Street, Euston Square, and Mr. Edward Stanford, of 6, Charing Cross, will colour and mount the Maps on rollers at a charge of 6s. each.

## SAYINGS AND DOINGS.

HER MAJESTY arrived in town on Thursday week, and it is now said will remain at Buckingham Palace until after her accouchement.

THE SULTAN, who has already made a present to Napoleon III. of the Church of the Nativity at Jerusalem, has, in order to render the gift complete, also given him the old palace of the Knights of St. John of Jerusalem, which is annexed to St. Peter's Prison.

MR. WOOLNER has completed a marble bust of the poet Tennyson, which is shortly to be on exhibition at Messrs. Dickinson's.

THE GROSS NUMBER OF COMMITMENTS for debt to the London and Middlesex Debtors' Prison and Horsemonger Lane Jail amounted in 1855 to 1,234, against 1,096 in 1854, 916 in 1853, and 870 in 1852. There were committed in 1855, 820 persons for debts of £5 and under, 194 for debts between £5 and £10, and 224 for debts above £10.

A MAN has been arrested at Penrith, for having placed a gradient post across the line of the Lancaster and Carlisle Railway, between Penrith and Plumpton. He had been strolling on the line, when he went to the station-master at Colthwaite, and said that he had laid his stick across the rails, but that the train "tunk" head off 't."

A CHILDREN'S FANCY DRESS BALL was recently given at the British Embassy in Constantinople, among the children of the Europeans, and the Armenians, and Jews, were seen mixing and dancing with the young daughters of some of the highest Turkish dignitaries. The proceeds of the ball £3,000, were distributed to the poor and sick.

SINCE BALACLAVA was EVACUATED, it has been taken possession of by an army of fierce rats, who not only consume every object of still life within their reach, but also at night time attack people in the streets. This native enemy has been found so formidable, it is said, that the inhabitants who had returned to their former dwellings, were obliged to vacate them again, and trust to the severities of winter to diminish the forces of the four-footed enemy.

A NEW RUSSIAN OPERA, "GRIGOROV," by M. Werstowski, the director of the theatre of Moscow, was produced there early last month,—it is said with entire success.

M. DE MEYERBEER, the composer, is at present entirely laid up with an ophthalmic attack, brought on by influenza, and which causes great uneasiness to his friends.

A NEW JOINT-STOCK COMPANY, for the export of ice to foreign countries, has been started in Russia. The company has a capital of 3,000 shares, of 100 silver roubles each.

THE REV. R. CHURCH, late Fellow of Oriel, the Rev. J. E. Bode, late of Christchurch, (author of the translations of the *Baldus* from Herodotus,) and the Rev. Mr. Arnold, of University College, are said to be candidates for the Professorship of Poetry, at Oxford, in room of the Rev. T. Leigh Claughton, of Trinity, whose period of office has expired.

THREE SHARP SHOCKS OF EARTHQUAKE were felt at Trieste on the morning of the 7th, but without doing any damage.

MR. GEORGE SCHAEFF, Jun., has been appointed by the Chancellor of the Exchequer to the post of permanent secretary to the National Portrait Commission, under the presidency of Lord Stanhope.

MR. LUMLEY has announced the opening of her Majesty's Theatre on the 14th of April. He has made several important engagements, particularly of Signor Giuglini, a tenor of great renown throughout Italy, and Madame Spiza, a soprano, now performing with great success at Milan. Signor Giuglini will make his debut on the first night of the season. We shall also again have Piccolomini, (and the Traviata,) and Johanna Wagner.

THE ONLY DAUGHTER OF OMAR PACHA has poisoned herself (according to a despatch from Belgrade) in consequence of the ill-treatment of her husband.

DR. DAVID STRAUSS, author of the celebrated "Life of Jesus," is about to write a biography of Ulrich von Hutten, the knight-poet and champion to the Reformation.

THE SOULAGES COLLECTION is unfortunately lost to the public. In consequence of the recent financial discussions, the Chancellor of the Exchequer has, we understand, declared to accept the offer of the gentleman who purchased this collection, with the view of securing it for the country.

WORKMEN are at present busily engaged in preparing the interior of Westminster Hall for the exhibition of the competition designs for the new government offices to be erected between W.itchell and the new Houses of Parliament.

THE LORD BISHOP OF LONDON has appointed the Rev. G. E. L. Cotton, M.A., late Fellow of Trinity College, Cambridge, Master of Marlborough College, to be one of his examining chaplains; and the Rev. Edward Parry, M.A., of Balliol College, Oxford, to be his domestic chaplain.

A FARM LABOURER, named Vautrin, was executed at Chaumont (Haute Marne, France), on March 13, for the murder of a child eleven months old, whom he killed for the sole purpose of using its skull as a charm, which his morbid fancy led him to believe would render him invisible, and enable him to rob the neighbouring chateaux with impunity.

SOME OF THE DIRECTORS of the Great Western Railway Company have visited Guernsey, for the purpose of making arrangements for establishing a steam packet communication between Weymouth and the Channel Islands.

THE BISHOP OF NORWICH is reported to contemplate resignation.

THE STUDENT of most mark this session at King's College, Aberdeen, says a *Banff paper*, is a Mr. Donald Robinson, a farm servant at S.ey-side—a man who holds the plough during summer, and with his earnings in the field educates himself at college in winter. As a mathematician, he is said to display wonderful power and quickness.

LANDAFF CATHEDRAL, after a restoration extending over a period of ten years, is about to be re-opened for public worship. The celebration has been fixed on Thursday, the 16th proximo, when a sermon will be preached in the morning by the Right Rev. the Lord Bishop of Oxford.

MR. STUART WORTLEY, the Solicitor-General, was reported on Saturday to have been suffering from an attack of brain fever.

AMERICA is about to furnish us with a monster equestrian company. A large ship has been freighted for their journey hither.

TWO SKELETONS, one of an adult, the other of a child, have been found on the estate of Major Sibthorpe, M.P., at Canwick, near Lincoln; and larger skeleton was found in such a condition as to show that the body had been doubled up. A razor blade and a short dagger were dug out at the same place, much corroded.

THE PRINCIPAL SHIPWRECKERS, MERCHANTS, &c., of Milford, Haverfordwest and adjacent places, are about to memorialise the Postmaster-General to permit all letters from South Wales to the South of Ireland to be conveyed by way of Milford instead of as at present via Liverpool and Holyhead.

A PLAY written by Alexandre Dumas in twenty-four hours, was, according to a recent letter from Paris, about to be performed at the residence of M. de Girardin; while M. Dumas, who boasts of being the best cook in France, was to superintend the preparation of the dinner which was to precede the performance.

THE COPYRIGHTS of the Morning Herald, Standard, and St. James's Chronicle newspapers are for sale.

THE PEOPLE OF LINCOLN have resolved, that the monument to be erected in that town to the memory of Sir John Franklin, is to take the form of a "Franklin Institute and Scientific Museum."

AT KISKOPOL (island of Tyree) Hector M'Donald, being jealous of his wife, beat her to death, on the 12th ult.

AN ENORMOUS ROCK recently fell from a hill behind the village of Salragua, (Tarn), crushing the house of a blacksmith, and two children were killed.

THE SHIPPING and agricultural interests may be congratulated on the fact, that the Government, with a full appreciation of the importance of the subject, have yielded to the solicitations of the gentlemen who hold the lease of the Kooria Mooria Islands, and that an armed vessel will be forthwith despatched thither for the protection of such ships as may resort to the islands for the purpose of loading guano.

DR. VOGEL, who was engaged in an expedition to the Nile, has been assassinated. The Doctor is said to have advanced through Birghini into Wadday, and to have been there murdered. The Sheikh of Bornu has promised to forward particulars to our consul at Tripoli, as soon as they have been ascertained.

A FIRE broke out at the Orleans Railway station, France, on Friday evening, in a warehouse used for the reception of property accidentally left in the trains. It was soon got under, but the roof of the building and the greater part of the property in it were consumed, and several of the company's men were burnt by the melted zinc which fell upon their faces and hands.

THE HEARING OF THE APPEAL of the Archdeacon of Taunton, will not take place before Easter term; and, possibly, not at the beginning of the term.

A DEPUTATION waited on Lord Palmerston on Monday, to lay before him Lordship the case of Mr. Barber, the solicitor, who having been implicated in some ill-forgotten, was transported, and afterwards pardoned. The deputation thought that Mr. Barber ought to be compensated for the sufferings he had unjustly endured. Lord Palmerston promised to consult his colleagues on the subject.

THE WRITS FOR THE NEW PARLIAMENT were to be issued to-day, (Saturday.)

NO FEWER THAN TWENTY FEMALE PHYSICIANS are now in practice in America; some of them are in excellent business.



At the head of "the Bridge of Caravans" stands a sort of Custom-guard-house, occupied by some of those *Zelazques*, with whose aspect and costume we are so familiar in pictures of Asiatic scenes; high conical turbans, white linen drawers, and sashes of enormous breadth, terminally garnished with yataghans and kandjars, blended with naked limbs of the colour of Spanish leather, a face brightened by an eagle's eye, and adorned by a "beak" which might claim the same origin, and moustachios like a dragon. Such is the scene presented to the traveller who visits the celebrated bridge which our engraving represents.



## THE BADDINGTON PEERAGE.

BEING THE LIVES OF THEIR LORDSHIPS.

A STORY OF THE BEST AND THE WORST SOCIETY.

BY GEORGE AUGUSTUS SALA,

AUTHOR OF "A JOURNEY DUE NORTH."

## CHAPTER THE FIRST.

## THE MORNING.

TWENTY-SEVEN years ago there stood (it stands now) in London an inconsiderable slip of a street, which was (it is) one of the channels of communication between the grand street that Nash built for George the Third and the grand square erected by some architect—whose name I never knew but who was probably a German—for George the First. The great street, all stucco, and the great square is all red brick; but my inconsiderable slip inclined (it inclines) more to the dinginess of the last than to the flimsiness of the first. This street (as it was, and is, and is to be) I presume, to the end of genteel Time, I will speak of in the present tense. It is not a handsome street. It is not a wide street. It has shops. A man who sells candles, lives at one of its corners; nearly opposite to him is a barber (he calls himself a peruke-maker, but he shaves). There was, when I first knew the street, a greengrocer's within its precincts. There are yet several lodging-houses, a boot-shop, and two taverns. Yet, with all these plebeian drawbacks, Little Maddox Street, Hanover Square, was in eighteen hundred and thirty, as it is now in eighteen hundred and thirty-seven—the most fashionable street in the great city of the world.

For in that formal, gray stone, big wig church of St. George's, over against the street I have named, Fashion—ethereal, capricious, beautiful, glittering, happy Fashion—has, for upwards of a century, fixed upon an altar for the Solemnisation of Matrimony. Since the death of Queen Anne, Fashion has elected to be married at St. George's. Fashion flutters and faints, and is flounced and furbelowed, there. It signs its name in the register; it leaves an odour of millefleurs in the vestry; it comes forth smiling, blushing, and skirt-holding, all lace and rich silks, and jewellery, and perfect felicity (of course), down these fashion-worn vestry-room steps, to where the lightly-hung chariots, with their gleaming wheels and fast men in embroidery, are waiting; so where the silky-skinned horses curvet in their armored harness, pawing and stamping, and champing the air proudly, yet not with such a grace and dignity as are the special gift of those long-tailed, long-maned, coal-black steeds, which Mr. Resurgam, the undertaker, who lives only next door to the vestry-room, in Mill Street, owns, and which, in the course of time and business, have not unfrequently to curvet and stamp at Fashion's door, when the shutters are up and the blinds are down—when there are to be no more marriages, and when Fashion is no longer Fashion, but Mortality.

You know that the vestry-room is but the second entrance—the back door, in fact—of this aristocratic Temple; that in stately George Street, with its tall, shining windows, and red brick fronts with stone dressings, are the portico of the fane, and the broad flight of stone steps. I could never justly understand why the wedding procession should, so to speak, sneak out of the back door, when, round the corner, it could come down to its chariots triumphantly, with room for coaches-and-six to turn, with ample space for a crowd to admire—for the charity boys to be ranged in line—for the beadle, in his scarlet, and lace, to be seen to advantage—for the bride to shine forth in all her beauty, youth, happiness, wealth—for the brilliant following, to show their gay feathers in all their iridescence—for the spectators to shout, and throw up their caps, if so they listed. But Fashion has said that it will come down those steps; and Fashion is an institution of so Eleusinian and inscrutable a nature, that it baffles reason and calmly crushes consistency. Its laws, whatever they may be, are as those of the Medes and Persians. It is not for us to question them, and they will endure, my brother, long after you and I have done with the two first sections of the first column of the "Times" supplement, and are out of Fashion altogether.

One Tuesday, in the month of November, eighteen hundred and thirty, there was a grand wedding at St. George's, Hanover Square,—so grand, indeed, that Mr. Serattle, the beadle—that stern boy-compeller, with the large waistcoat—had not later than that morning expressed his surprise to Mrs. Muffit, landlady of the Silver Fish public-house, that the parties about to be joined together in holy matrimony were not "titled folk;" for, as Mr. Serattle observed, "the drosses was perditionous, leastways like a Lord (as there is Two tollerin, and a real Lord the bridegroom's best man looks), and the bridesmaids, which you could measure twice your harm on their sleeves, lettin' alone 'ats with ribbing enough to set you up, mum, in an 'aberdasher's shop; likewise more carriages as was seen since the day that Lord Viscount Baddington—and a noble gentleman he was—married Miss Truepenny, ten years ago come Christmas."

A score of carriages at least—no pill-box-looking broughams; no perched up cabriolets, with concealed horses and self-sufficient tigers; no compromises between chariots and bays—out real roomy, twenty-seven years ago carriages. They were mostly bright yellow, or of that peculiar shade of green known as "snuffy." They were addicted to red wheels; they had a leaning to hammercloths, trimmed with fringe like that my Lord, the chimney sweep, wears on his coat on May Day; they were bountifully plastered with the heraldic harlequinade of their noble owners; there, to say the truth, clumsy, ugly, old-fashioned vehicles enough, but they were comfortable, substantial, and luxurious. What has become of them now? I know many of them fell into decadence and hackney coach-hood; but what has become of the hackney-coaches themselves? Where are they gone? Are they transplanted and transported far beyond the seas? Are the aristocracy of the Cannibal Islands borne to his Majesty's levees in those bygone equipages? Are they driven by Cumanche coachmen in some out of the way South American Republic, so happy that it is never heard of in Europe? or are they indeed utterly broken up and scattered?

There was no possibility of mistaking the bride's carriage—it was so grand. It was a chariot with four grays; and the whole equipage may be emphatically characterised as "shiny." For metal and glass, and rubbing and polishing, and rich smooth stuffs, had been employed with so lavish a hand in that cannibal caravan, that you could see yourself in the window-panes, the panels, the horses' coats, the harness, the crimson jackets and brilliant tops of the postillions, the very rumble and imperial, and axle-boxes even. The vehicle diffused a perfume of affluence—Fashionable affluence, mind—that floated through Maddox Street, and was wafted up Mill Street, across Conduit Street, and so into Savile Row, where it stole into the faded consulting rooms of pippin-faced old sages of the Fashionable faculty, and made those wise old ravens chuckle even as they coughed, thinking that Fashion, being married, would have children who would have chicken-pox and croup, and other ailments, from which even infant Fashion is not exempt.

Lord Viscount Baddington's carriage-horses were snoozing at the rumble of the bride's chariot, sympathetic doubtless with their noble owner, who was at that very moment of time engaged in saluting the bride in the vestry. His Lordship's carriage was sympathetic too. It had a gouty look: his Lordship was afflicted with podagra. It was very yellow: his Lordship's complexion was that of an over-ripe shaddock. It shook a good deal: so did his Lordship. It was very soft and luxurious, very warm and lazy-looking, very lofty and quite empty; all of which the world (which I do not believe) said were characteristics of his Lordship.

There was the carriage of the bride's papa and mamma, cosy and unpretentious, but wealthy-looking—O! quite Crasus-like in yellowness. There was General the Honourable Spencer Baddington's carriage—his Lordship's brother. There was the private carriage of Sir William Guy, Baronet, of Oldtrees Manor, in the county of Kent, and Member of Parliament for the borough of Mayford, which imposing coach (plum coloured, turned up with red) was not on the present occasion (and for certain reasons) in the occupancy of its proprietor, but had brought to this most Fashionable wedding, Compton Guy, Esq., the Baronet's only brother, and a cornet in his Majesty's Horse Guards Blue. There was old Lady Tottringham's carriage, with the well-known pair of vicious black horses which fought with and bit each other

THE BEEGE OF CARAVANS AT SMYRNA.—(SEE PRECEDING PAGE.)



SCENE FROM THE TAMING OF THE SHREW.—THE PICTURE BY W. M. EGLEY, IN THE PORTLAND GALLERY EXHIBITION.—(SEE PRECEDING PAGE.)



trotted; who was at every wedding—nobody exactly knew why; there were half-a-dozen more carriages and chariots belonging to the notabilities—the “supers” of fashion, they may be called, whose occupation it seems to be to rich, and drive about leaving cards, and the backgrounds at births, and deaths, and marriages, whenever a person is born, or is wedded, or is buried.

It had apparently snowed white favours during the night, so plenty were those tokens of bridal felicity displayed on hats and jackets, button-holes and horses ears. Young girls in the crowd looked with a long envy at those satin rosettes, thinking, perhaps, how many capons had been spoiled for the decoration of grooms, and porters, and valets; thinking perchance how agreeable it would be to have a display of similar white favours at one's own wedding, instead of sitting up half the night in the milliner's stifling workroom, making them. For I have heard my grandmother say, that a wise cruel Ruler, once, addressing his subjects from his throne, told them that the march of civilisation was like that of an army, and could not be accomplished without leaving some victims in its wake; and my grandmother, good soul, had heard from her grandmother, I think, that Fashion marched somewhat like an army too; and would sometimes, in its advance towards Ineffable Perfection and Pelagian Beatitude, leave behind it pale cheeks, and swollen eyes, and aching hearts, with some poverty, and considerable anguish, and a little Death.

The elements had been favourable to Fashion on this joyful occasion, and had politely provided a fine day with as cheerful a promptitude as Messrs. Gunter had provided the wedding breakfast, as the job-master had sent the four grays and the crimson-vested postilions, or as the Rector of St. George's had laid on an extra curate to assist him in his arduous labour of reading the marriage service. There was a November crimson fire-ball in the heavens like an artificial firework that Fashion could order and pay for. The fog had gone out of town for the day to look up a friend in Essex, (William-of-the-Wisp, Esq., the Marshes, near Plaistow) and the sky was of that reluctantly cerulean tint that resembles a rather yellow muslin window-curtain through which the sun is shining. But though fine overhead, there was under foot as rich a stratum of good, thick, clinging mud as any covetous crossing sweeper would desire to see. There had been several political meetings of some low people called Radicals during the past week—fellows who wanted to be Represented, or something of that sort, and were very troublesome; and the elements, again, meeting with Fashionable high-toryism, had come down upon the rogues with rain, and had so drenched them, that the Prime Minister's windows had remained unbroken from Saturday to Monday. Hence the mud in Little Maddox Street; and hence the great agony and tribulation undergone by sundry gentlemen inappreciably more fashionable than any of the titled persons I have yet mentioned, more richly dressed, comelier in

hundred years old by her death-discs of eyes; who looked as if she had risen suddenly from the mud, and was its sister?

I am glad that John-Peter did not fell her to the earth with his golden-tipped bamboo. He would have been justified, of course, his feelings were so dreadfully outraged; but he was a chivalrous man, devoted to the sex, and he spoke her fair.

“It aint a funeral,” he responded unaffectedly; “it's a marriage. Can't you see, stupid?”

body away, before the footman had closed his mouth. He, making a feint of driving her away by a gentle prod of the bamboo stick, was pleased to find her gone; and felt not even hurt when an angry costermonger and a street boy, who stood upon his dignity, asked him derisively “were he vos a-drivin to,” adding to the inquiry the insulting epithet of “welvet shanks.” Nor did he show much indignation when the depraved crowd, stirred up by the costermonger's sarcasm, saluted him and Tummus, his companion, and Chawles, his fellow, and Enry, his mate in servitude, with ironical cheers of



THE BRIDAL PROCESSION.

“Curse you,” the woman resumed quite rudely; “you know what I mean. Whose marriage is it, fool?”

Again the cheeks of the insulted John Thomas glowed with virtuous resentment; again the bamboo quivered for a moment in his hand, but again he withheld himself.

“Gaw'long,” he said, with great forbearance.

“If you don't give me an answer, you jackanapes,” the woman exclaimed, as calmly as though she had been addressing an Equal, though every muscle in her face was trembling with suppressed passion, “I'll heave this mud over you.”

She stooped as she spoke, and actually plunged her scooped hands into the kennel. The suddenness, and desperation, and abnegation of womanhood in the action—her furious face, her wild appearance, that dreadful dress, which was not that of a peasant, nor that of a beggar, nor that of a wanton, but a mixture of all three: all these things, together with her threat, so perturbed and discomposed John-Peter, that he knew not for the nonce what to reply. He looked round helplessly for Mr. Scratte the beadle; but that official was in the church. There was a coach door between him and his

“bravoo knobsticks,” and recommendations to look at the backs of their heads, for that mischievous boys had spilt bags of flour over them. For to say the truth, the woman had been too much for John-Peter's nervous system; he trembled, he winked, his whiskers become flaccid with agitation, and he did not recover his equilibrium till the appearance of Mr. Scratte at the top of the vestry-room steps, in a high state of inflammation of face and waistcoat, announced to all concerned that the wedding party was about to descend.

The boys in the crowd began to cheer lustily as the people who had had to do with Hymen appeared on the threshold of a New Life. *Atme*, what a threshold! *Oibo*, what a life! There are two gates to Saint George's, one of Ivory and one of Horn; and where is that which is of Ivory but in Little Maddox Street? And lo, through the Ivory teeth of that door come the couple who have been joined together in holy matrimony, into a fantastic dreamy region where there is nothing certain—nothing real. She, whom the parson asks at the communion-rails if she will have yonder man in the dress coat to be her wedded husband, takes, unconsciously, a lottery ticket from the hands of the mumbling clerk when she



JOHN-PETER AND THE “SHAMEFUL THING.”

feature, taller in figure, loftier in demeanour, haughtier in conversation; but who, through the gross injustice, envy and partiality of Society, are never mentioned in the “Court Guide,” or the “Morning Post,” or the “Royal Red Book.” I mean those honest gentlemen, who for a certain yearly stipend consent to put flour on their heads, and coals on the fire, and victuals on the table; to be called John when their name is Peter; to wear silk stockings and parti-coloured clothes; to walk before lap-dogs, and behind old ladies; to be, what should properly and courteously be termed retainers, adherents, servitors, attendants, vassals if you will, but what irreverent men persist in calling flunkies.

There stood in the mud—the vile piebeian mud, O Jupiter Hostis!—an honest British man of this ilk, and he shall stand, too, as a model for all his brethren—the bride's father's sergeant-footman, none else. Six feet in height; a shapeable man, calves clad in silk, like pink balustrades supporting an architrave of plush. Large, glossy, protruding whiskers, wings to the calm edifice of his face—whiskers that an ambitious little foot-page might be tempted to lay hold of, that he might pull himself up to footmanhood. A front—not exactly “like Jove to threaten or command,” but a good solid head for all that, with plenty of front and plenty of back, and bushels of powder. White teeth, white gloves, white neckcloth, white favours, a delicate bloom on each cheek, a pensive but complacent smile, (the mud lay heavy on his soul, but the sense of duty to the Fair made him hold up), a graceful aiguillette, and the largest cocked-hat that ever was seen since the lamented demise of his late Royal Highness the Duke of York. Such was the outward semblance of John, whose name might have been Peter, as he stood perforce with his varnished, silver buckled shoes, gracefully reclining on his gold-tipped bamboo, and waiting for his masters and mistresses to come out of church. He had the mien and bearing of a prince; yet who would have thought that this prince was not proud, but was in secret affable, and had only five minutes since, condescended to cross the road with Tummus his companion, and to partake at that thirsty Silver Fish of Geneva and cloves?

“Who's funeral is this, footman?”

Now I put it to you if you were so dressed, so appointed, so turned out, for that is the word, from a band-box of splendour; and if you had the same “high disdain and sense of merit” as had this magnificent creature, how would you like to be addressed as “Footman,” and to be asked whose funeral it was on the occasion of the most fashionable wedding that had occurred for ten years?

More than this, how would you like to be so spoken to by a shameful thing, who had the form and garments of a woman, but the face, and voice, and gestures of no sex, but of a phantom; whose horrible, swollen, reeling, ragged presence was a blot upon the Sun, and a shame to the day, and a scandal to the occasion; who was young in years by her black hair, and a



THE WEDDING BREAKFAST.

brethren—there was no new policeman at his elbow, and he was positively constrained to give his questioner an answer.

“It's Mr. Falcon's eldest daughter, which is married to Sir William Guy, Baronet,” he explained, “which is Mr. Falcon of Grosvenor Square, and is Lord Wycount Baddington's nevy; and now you know all about it, and—”

and, but here he broke down in his oratory, and recommending the woman to “gaw'long,” so concluded.

She needed no second bidding. She had turned, and taken her wretched

falters forth “yes,” and the Three Fates cower at the bottom of the vestry-room steps, and give her as she passes the Threshold of Ivory, a prize or a blank—oft-times the latter; a Prize that shall make her fruitful, and loved, and honoured, and a crown to her husband; a Blank, that shall tell her she is yoked to a ruffian or a sot, whom she has taken for life, for poorer and poorer, for worse and worse, in health, sickness, and in sorrow, for him to outrage and oppress, till merciful Death do them part.

But there was no just cause or impediment (there never is in Fashionable



marriages), why these two parties should not come together. So down they came together accordingly, in this order of procession:—

Mr. Serattie, Beadle, agitated, but equal to the emergency; telegraphing all the way to John who might have been Peter, who telegraphed to Tumbas; so he to Chawies, 'Enry on the coach-box in outlying Mill Street not being forgotten; and Jens (Lady Totteringham's particular, grown on her Ladyship's estate), being summoned by instantaneous (juvenile and penny-fee) messengers from Mrs. Muffit's piscine hostelry; telegraphs followed by a simultaneous and wide-spreading adjustment of cocked-hats, couched of gold-headed batons, and opening of carriage doors with a clang.

Next: the Bride and Bridegroom. Here is something official, which, like a flourish of trumpets, will serve to introduce two personages so important. Read this from the "Times" newspaper of the 11th November, eighteen hundred and thirty.

#### MARRIAGES.

At St. George's, Hanover Square, by the Rev. Lawrence Grylls, M.A., assisted by the Rev. Cascus Lactal, B.A., Sir William Katesby Rookwood Fox, son and heir of the late Sir Ambrose Percy Powderham Guy, of Oldtrees Manor, near Mayford, Kent, Bart., to Caroline Amy, eldest daughter of Gervase Falcon, Esq., of his Majesty's Carpet-bag, and Hat-box office, and of Grosvenor Square.

I flatter myself that by the judicious employment of those editorial hoon-friends, the sharp-cutting scissors, I have avoided a very great difficulty, and almost imperative necessity for digression, in explaining to you "who was who" (to employ an ungrammatical but popular idiomism) in eighteen hundred and thirty.

A hat, then thought the acmé of taste, elegance, and beauty, but which, now-a-days, would be considered as hideous, absurd, and unbecoming, as I fervently trust blue uglies and crinoline petticoats will be thought ten years hence—a satin cart wheel, about which had been entangled some ribbon harness; a white gros-de-Naples pelisse (yes, ladies and gentlemen, a pelisse); sleeves like balloons, like Titanic legs of mutton, like Brobdingnag pears, like Polyphemus peptogs painted white; a lace collar something like an Elizabethan ruff, something like Herodias's charger, with—not the Baptist's head in it—but the pretty, blushing, happy face of Amy Caroline the Bride; skirts of extreme brevity, pink silk stockings, with open work on the instep; white sat in shoes, with strigs crossed over the foot; and—shall it be told in Gath?—it shall, for this is a faithful chronicle—some curious Vandyking and frilling manifest between the end of the kirts and the beginning of the ankle, which would have elighted the æsthetic eyes of Mrs. Amelia Bloomer, who (for gallantry's sake let me hasten to remark) could not, by any possibility, have passed the verge of infancy twenty-seven years ago. Is not this the fact, you gentlemen who were married in eighteen hundred and thirty? Didn't you marry a young lady in a coach-wheel hat, leg-of-mutton sleeves, short skirts, and Vandyked trousers? Were you not married yourselves in a hat with a turned-up brim, a chocolate coat with the collar up to your ears, Cossack pantaloons, peaked boots, and three under waistcoats? Go tell your children this, and they in their turn shall tell their grandchildren that they married a young lady in a hoop of iron, horse-hair, and gutta-percha, with a cushion on the top of her head, and her hair scragged back like unto a Mandarin's wife of Shanghai; being themselves arrayed in a costume in which the semblance of the tavern waiter struggles for mastery with the undertaker out for a holiday. This was the Bride; eighteen summers, bright eyes, smiles, a little foot, and—if you desire a closer portraiture, go read Sir John Suckling's ballad on a wedding.

The chocolate coat, underwaistcoats, and Cossack pantaloons hinted at, and to fill this equipment a long, strange, bony body; a longer, stranger, bonier face; long hands; long feet; a curious, shuffling, awkward gait; sleepy, yet restless, gray eyes; an expression of mouth, half amounting to a yawn, and half to a sneer; hair of no particular colour, but with a lingering suspicion of sandiness—hair that would obstinately persist in lying the contrary way to that in which it was brushed, and with an inequality in its length and thickness that made you involuntarily surmise that its owner had gone to bed without a nightcap in a room troubled with rats, and had had a portion of his *chevelure* bitten off by those voracious animals during the night. This was the Bridegroom.

A stout, well-to-do, crimson-faced gentleman, in the prime of life; his stiff, black hair a little shot with gray; white waistcoat and white neckcloth, both capacious; diamond stud buttons; heavy gold chain, seals, and key. This was the Bride's Father, Gervase Falcon, Esq., of his Majesty's Carpet-bag and Hat-box Office—a sinecure, value two thousand five hundred pounds per annum.

A larger pelisse than any present, but of discreet gray silk; a larger hat and feathers larger sleeves, longer ribbons; a larger and more comfortable person, and lavender kid boots. Make way, O you beadle, and scatter the boys, for this was the Bride's Mamma.

A fur collar, fringing a snuff-coloured frock, brave in braiding; John-Peter, the footman's legs, but cased in black silk stockings; small, delicate, white hands, covered with signet and antique gems and brilliant rings, and disdaining the white kid gloves which were carried, as a matter of form, crumpled up in one palm; a white head, and a wicked, purple face, with twinkling gray eyes and a flexible mouth; large ears (even lords must have ears); and Midas, though more than a lord—for he was a king—had ears); a large shirt-collar; a very large hat with a broad brim; a double gold-rimmed eyeglass; the daintiest of varnished pumps; a gold-headed stick (John-Peter's baton's noble relative); a great deal of feebleness, and shakiness, and tottering; but O! such true nobility of movement, action, gesture! Who could be the possessor of all these things but Lord Viscount Baddington, mincing along with the youngest and prettiest of the bridesmaids on his arm?

But why this noble lord at the wedding of a mere commoner? why this condescension on the part of his Lordship in attending this wedding? why so grand a wedding at all?

So much. If you had ever seen the edition of the peerage published in the year of grace eighteen hundred and thirty, you would have read therein that the Christian and family names of Lord Viscount Baddington in the Peerage of Ireland were Charles Rook Delahawk Falcon; and if you had known anything of fashionable genealogy, you would have been cognisant of the facts that his Lordship's only and younger brother, the Honourable Hew Henshaw Falcon, a captain in his Majesty's land forces, was slain in action in Spain in eighteen hundred and ten; that it was through the noble Viscount's influence that the deceased Captain's son and heir (to nothing), Gervase Falcon, Esquire, obtained that responsible position in the Carpet-bag and Hat-box Office, whose duties he discharged with such admirable efficiency, and the salary attached to which he drew with such praiseworthy regularity. What, then, so natural as for his Lordship to attend his grandniece's wedding?

Behind this Noble Peer came another couple through the Ivory gate. Only Compton Guy, of the Blues, as tall as his brother, but not awkward, not grotesque—only very listless, tired, and washed out in appearance, and in a state of unmistakable despair and terror at being obliged to give his arm to that immense old Lady Totteringham, who always reminded you of a trifle—not that she was of delicate dimensions, but that she irresistibly suggested a piled-up heap of quivering jelly, cream sweetmeats, macaroons, and tipsy cake. Waggish children of Fashion used to call her the bride-cake, so loaded was she with ornaments, so rich was she without and within.

Who next in the wedding train? Who next? I hope I shall not be accused of undue familiarity with regard to Fashion, if I sum the rest of the attendants up as the Honourable Tag, the Right Honourable Rag, and the Very Reverend Bobtail. But all bravely dressed—all glittering, and shining, and gleaming in the red sun, which, with an extra stretch of courtesy to Fashion, burst out again in augmented splendour, as the procession made its descent.

Then the bells rang out, and the boys cheered again; the noble company entered their chariots of state, the stalwart footmen jumped up behind. Away went bride and bridegroom, with their four grays and crimson-vested postillions; away went that portly papa, and portlier mamma of the bride, in their carriage; away went Lord Viscount Baddington and Compton Guy, and all the pretty bridesmaids and aristocratic Tags, and Rags, and Bobtails,—like the baseless fabric of a story-teller's vision, leaving not a wreck in Little Maddox Street behind.

Yet This was not a dream, nay, nor the shadow of a vain imagining, but

a Truth: that as the carriage of the bride's father drove away, there suddenly stepped out from the cheering, admiring crowd, a dreadful, haggard, ragged Woman, who did not cheer, and did not admire, and did not wave her handkerchief, but with a hell-glance in her evil face, flung through the open carriage-window something like a letter, but crushed and crumpled up into a ball. It fell on Gervase Falcon's lap, and the Woman who threw it up into a bill. It fell on Gervase Falcon's lap, and the Woman who threw it up into a bill. It fell on Gervase Falcon's lap, and the Woman who threw it up into a bill.

"'Tis he a join of?" asked of Mr. Serattie, one of the then (very new) policemen, who, prospectively true to the future traditions of his order, had sauntered up when there was no longer the slightest occasion for his services.

"He's a readin' of a pepper," Mr. Serattie rejoined; "and, bless my 'art alive, 'ow pale he looks!"

#### CHAPTER THE SECOND.

##### "WATCHMAN—WHAT OF THE NIGHT?"

A PRECISELY analogous remark to that uttered by the Beadle, though couched in language more refined, broke from the lips of Mrs. Gervase Falcon, as, when the happy wedding party drove away from Saint George's, Hanover Square, the missile, which might have been a missive, skimmed through the window, and fell on her husband's lap.

"Good gracious! how pale you are, my dear!" This was what Mrs. Gervase Falcon exclaimed. I think a similar exclamation might be condoned even in *you*, stone of stoics—to whom the sight, maybe, of your grandmother's ghost would cause no greater emotion than an oscillation of the eyelid, if you were to see the face of a person, five seconds before rubicund with health and apparent happiness, suddenly assume the hue of modelled clay, and then a tinge more awfully resembling the Clay into which God resolves this poor potsherd when the stream is dried up on which the Earthen and the Brazen float, and come into collision and smash, or are smashed.

Not much less pale than the face opposite were the hands which, shaking as with the palsy, unrolled that paper ball; and not much paler than a furnace were the eyes which scorched up and sucked in the writing on the crumpled, ragged scrap. One hand closed on the letter, summons, death-warrant, ballad—whatever it may have been—closed on it rolled up into a ball again; the other sought a certain place on the buff waistcoat, perhaps to feel the links of the heavy gold chain, perhaps to feel the pulsations of the heavier human heart beneath.

"My dear," the happy bride's Papa rejoined to the inquiry of his spouse, "My dear, I feel—I feel—that is, I don't feel as if—My God, is there anybody there?"

"Anybody there? Mr. Falcon—my dear Gervase. Shall I stop the carriage? Are you ill?"

Anybody there—anybody where? In the squabs of the carriage—he looked at them. In his hat—he looked at it. Under the seat—he looked there. In the street—the sky—the sun that had gone into the gray clouds—the moon that had not risen from them yet; for he had thrust his head, first out of one window, next out of the other, searching the whole prospect with those red eyes.

Drawing in his head at last, and wiping his face, not so pale now, but very clammy, disordered, and scared, he began to laugh in a hard, dry manner.

"It's nothing, my dear Caroline, nothing," he said, with Heavens and Earth! such a *something* in every denial. "Nothing—a begging letter. Yes; that's it. A begging letter. Some vagabond has been writing me a begging letter. What a curious occasion to choose! Ha! ha! Our dear girl's wedding-day, and the church door! The church door, too!"

"What a curious place, and what a curious party!" John-Peter, on the knifeboard behind, with his gold-tipped stick at an angle of forty-five degrees with the carriage roof, was at that very instant of time thinking—thinking as at this present instant you may be thinking of persons thousands of miles away, or as thousands may be thinking about you, at your elbow, or at the farthest ends of the earth; seeming enemies with thoughts of love, seeming dear friends with thoughts of hatred, but for them and for you never to know their truth or falsity, or the thoughts themselves, till the End is here and the Soul-Silences become eternally eloquent.

As Gervase Falcon's carriage rolled swiftly Grosvenor Squarewards, it may be that its owner dreamed a dream: the ragged scrap of paper still clutched in his hand. He dreamed that he was at his daughter's wedding again, and that he saw the pretty bride bustling, the long bridegroom nervously twisting his osseous fingers, the gay following rustling their robes of silk, and fluttering their garnitures of gauze and lace. There was the Reverend Grylls, and there the Reverend Lactal, Rector and Curate, standing within the communion-rails; there was the goodly Church-and-State-presence of St. George's, Hanover Square, suggestive of the Royal Arms, the Thirty-nine Articles, plenty of plum-cake, red port wine and the "John Bull" newspaper. And it fell out that dreaming the dream, Gervase Falcon dreamed that he was dreaming another. He was still at a wedding; but it was in a little old, gray, mossy, country church. There was but one clergyman, a very nervous young country parson, evidently new to his business, who began by opening the Prayer-book at the Gunpowder Plot instead of the Marriage Service, and stammered woefully, and asked the Bride (who did not wear a hat and feathers, and was not—so curious are dreams—in the least like Caroline Amy, now Lady Guy) absurd questions: saying to her, "SARAH, wilt thou have this woman to be thy wedded husband?" and the like; then blushing, and trying back, and being brought to great confusion. Who's wedding was this? Caroline Amy's! But Lord Baddington gave that Bride away, and here was a Bride-giver in the person of a broad-faced, bald-headed fellow, whose waistcoat bore unmistakable marks of an apron-string, and who might have been the landlord of the village inn, summoned to perform his duties in haste. Who was the Bridegroom, too? Not Sir William Guy, Baronet, for this spouse was neither tall, nor nervous, nor awkward. Was the church itself St. George's, or the venerable parish church of some quiet village?—Long Mallow, Mallow Cray, Saint-Mallow-in-the-Marshes, or instance. But the parties were married in a dream. They swore to love and cherish, to honour and obey, in a dream. They were joined together—in a dream—by Heaven; and no man was to put them asunder. Never to be put asunder, in a dream or in vital reality. Never to be put asunder;—But does not Novalis say "that when we dream we are dreaming, we are near waking?"—and thus, as Gervase Falcon dreamed that he was dreaming of a wedding in a village church—a wedding at which the costumes of bride and bridegroom far more resembled those of eighteen hundred and ten, than of eighteen hundred and thirty, he WOKE to find himself at the door of his own mansion in Grosvenor Square, with the ragged scrap of paper still clutched in his hand.

So now all this goodly company hied into the dining-room, whose mahogany tables groaned (they always groan) beneath the weight of all the delicacies of the season. Are there any seasons, I wonder, in the year without delicacies? Nor for Fashion, surely. In the night season, when deep sleep falleth upon men, Fashion can have its "delicacies" in eider-down quilts, spring beds, and tables laid out *en cas de nuit*. In that darkest, stillest of all seasons—the Winter Season of Life—the last day of the last year, to which no new year is to succeed—there are delicacies for Fashion, even then. For are not "rich silk hat-bands" delicacies?—and hatchments, and "crimson velvet with cherub handles and gilt nails," and the "usual achievements?"

The delicacies, however, which Gunter the renowned furnished forth for the marriage table on the present occasion, were by no means funeral baked meats. Need I describe the wedding breakfast? I long to do so. I dearly wish it were *your* bridal-feast—Idol of my soul with the chestnut locks—I had to describe; but ah! these overcrowded newspaper columns stare me in the face. As the scene cannot here be described, let it be imagined; which, according to the Pandects of penny-a-lining, is "better," under all circumstances, of "scenes."

—"For I am sure," Lord Baddington went on to say, standing up at the table, quite beautifully on those polished silken legs, and holding a champagne glass in his trembling white fingers, "for I am sure, Ladies and Gentlemen, there is not one person present on this auspicious, this marvellous, I may say this delightful occasion." ("Hear!" from Compton Guy, and a sigh from a Bridesmaid who, perfectly agreeing with the poet, that "This distance lends enchantment to the view," thought the

near prospect of thirty years of age and celibacy anything but enchanting.) "who will not, from the bottom of his or her heart," (tears from the younger sisters of the bride) "respond heartily—nay, enthusiastically," ("Good!" from the honourable Tag and Co. "Very good," from Compton Guy) "to the toast I am about to propose." The health of the Bride. All the honours. A venture times seven. One cheer more. Six cheers more. Any number of cheers more. They cheered in Eighteen hundred and thirty. They were a vulgar race. Old Lady Totteringham not only drank the toast; but eat it in lobster salad. Compton Guy broke one glass and overturned another. Confusion.

A speech from the Bridegroom, consisting principally of monosyllables, blushes, and "hems." Tremendous cheering. Many more speeches, many more cheers, many more healths proposed and drunk with all the honours. The ladies' eyes began to sparkle, as the bubbles of Ruinart and Moët's brilliant nectarine poison—they did not drink Chateau-them—scintillated in the slender glasses. The last speeches were somewhat rumbling, not to say husky in utterance—not to say (oh, not for the world!) to hint at some what incoherently Champagny. Was there ever such a brave wedding before or since?

The proud and happy father of the bride, after that grand speech of his, which was so much applauded, and which caused him to shed tears—of pride and happiness, of course—was standing at the dining-room door, holding both his daughter's hands in his, who, little bird, blushing and sobbing, nestled on his breast, he looking at her with inexpressible tenderness and fondness. Should it not be so, all good people, when the first-born, the dear daughter of the house, goes forth to new ties, new obligations, and new life? The Bridegroom had said some manly, sensible words to Mrs. Falcon, though he was not a bony, awkward fellow of a Baronet who stammered when he spoke. Mrs. Falcon was certain that William would do his duty to Caroline. The younger sisters, Lucy Falcon of the raven tresses, and Sarah Falcon (her father insisted that his younger daughter should be called Sarah, a name which Mrs. Falcon objected to as horribly ungenteel, and only admitted, under protest, as "Sara")—Sarah of the clustering ringlets, hung about Caroline Amy, and cried and smiled, as girls in such joy-sorrows will do. The little family group were somewhat isolated. Lord Baddington—excellent nobleman—let them to the indulgence of their natural emotions, and devoted himself to the consolation of a pretty bridesmaid, with a Chantilly lace scarf and pink satin shoes, who, having nothing particular to cry about, was weeping in a most heart-rending manner. Compton Guy had gone to the window, and was flattening his military nose against the pane, looking at the Bride's travelling-chariot, with the four grays, and the postilions in pink, drawn up outside, with the little ragamuffins, the policemen, the nursery-maids, and the ternoons's milk, waiting to see the bride and bridegroom come out. The Honourable Tag and Co. had gone to champagne again, and whispered witticisms; and old Lady Totteringham, after having eaten and drunk a great deal more than was good for her, had gone to sleep.

"*Libiamo ne lieti calici!*" Fill up the cup once more. A health to their life-long happiness! A fairy's silver shoe to throw after William and Caroline. The Noble Viscount suggested to the pretty bridesmaid who having nothing to cry about was crying, that one of her pink satin shoes would be the very thing to throw. The pretty bridesmaid blushed. Then they opened the dining-room door, and John-Peter, and Tumbas and 'Enry, Chawles not being forgotten, threw wide open the great lion's-head knocker portals that gave egress into Grosvenor Square.

It was no more a dream, but as true as Death, that, just at this moment, a Scream—long, loud, piercing, horrible to hear—rang through the entrance hall, echoing and re-echoing from basement to garret. There was a start, and a cry of amazement from the whole grey company, an unlocking of hands, a suspension of whispers, smiles dropped from lips like withered leaves, and fond looks froze in the eyes of women. Then the proud and happy father, with an awful prescience in his face, sprang through the open doorway.

(To be continued.)

#### LAW AND CRIME.

Two fellows, described as "smart young men," and giving the names of Preston and Bladesly, were brought on Monday last before Mr. Hall, charged with assaulting two respectable tradesmen. The complainants had been out with their wives to visit a friend, and were returning about ten o'clock in the evening (on Sunday), when the prisoners, with a companion, came out of a tavern, and commenced being aggressive upon one of the married ladies. The husband asked the "gent" what he meant by such conduct, and was immediately set upon by the whole party, who disfigured his face fearfully. Mr. Hall, the magistrate, was very severe in his comments, but excessively lenient in his sentence. He fined the accused five pounds. They are alleged to have treated the matter with great levity, and to have paid the fine with the usual promptitude. It is not likely that these smart young men can be aware that beyond the mere fine, they are liable to damages at the suit of the ill-used husband for the brutality practised upon him. The punishment inflicted is only for the criminal breach of the peace, and does not prejudice the civil right of the injured party to compensation. At the same time, it must be confessed that he acted without due judgment in the matter. When a drunken ruffian, whether well-dressed or not, assaults one's wife in the street, it can never be advisable to ask his meaning, which would certainly be unsatisfactory if given. The only two advisable courses would be, either to secure a first blow, of a kind at once to put the aggressor out of fighting order, or to follow him until an opportunity presented itself of giving him into custody.

A farmer, residing at Soller's Hope, Herefordshire, was charged before a gang of rural justices with allowing his hedges to grow so as to intercept the rays of the sun from shining upon the high road! The defendant, an old, unlettered, John Bull kind of man, was so impressed with the ludicrous nature of the charge that he does not appear to have given his mind to a serious defence. The rural justices, however, fined him seven shillings. This is reported to be the costs of the information. At the same sessions, one of the magistrates, while on the bench, complained that two poor little girls, then as prisoners before the judiciary "awkward squad," had robbed his field of two pennyworth of turnip-tops. They could only cry in answer to the charge, and were fined four-and-sixpence, described, as in the former case, as *costs*. In these two cases it will be observed that the accused have each been mulcted of a sum, not payable to the Queen, as fines usually are, but to the clerks—that is to say, the *proteges* of these rural justices. When it is considered that few cases tried before these persons find their way into the London journals, it will scarcely be unfair to hope that no secret understanding exists, directly or indirectly, between them and their clerks as to profits. But if the clerks be led to depend, wholly or in part, for remuneration upon the morsels thus cast them from the bench, these verdicts can be accounted for.

Last week a Mr. Brushfield, chairman of the Board of Guardians to the Whitechapel Union, attended before Mr. Hammill, and begged to state, with reference to certain charges made against the parochial authorities—charges upon which we last week commented—that "there was not a word of truth from beginning to end of the report." The magistrate before whom the circumstances reported had happened must have been surprised to hear this announcement from a person who had been absent on the occasion. On inquiry, however, Mr. Brushfield admitted, not only the truth of the report, but of every material allegation therein; and having thus illustrated the bearings of the parochial mind, was promptly extinguished by the magistrate, and left the court.

In all criminal cases, the best last resort of a prisoner is penitent respectability. If a man has only paid rent and taxes, this fact will, in all probability, if properly worked, be an admirable set-off against his having obtained the means of payment by plunder. Last Saturday, a gasfitter, in extensive business, was charged with stealing gas by means of a pipe fraudulently connected with the supply-pipe of the company. By this act, which nobody better than one in his trade could have known to be a theft, he had for years supplied burners in his house, consuming on an average one thousand feet of gas per day. Could the value of this plunder be represented in pocket-handkerchiefs, and piled on the table of a police-court, one would get a clearer idea of the crime actually committed than appears to have been entertained by the magistrate. The prisoner relied on his respectability, was much affected, received a sentence of two months' imprisonment, and was led away amid the condolences of his friends.







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Bexley . . .	S. Eastern.
Bexley Heath . . .	do.
Blackheath . . .	do.
Bland . . .	do.
Bow . . .	Eastern.
Bow . . .	do.
Bridges . . .	N. Eastern.
Bryton . . .	Southern.
Bromley (Kent) . . .	Eastern.
Bush Hill . . .	do.
Bushy Park . . .	S. Western.
Bushy Park . . .	Western.
Bush Hill . . .	Southern.
Bushy Park . . .	S. Western.

[illegible][illegible]

A . . .	Easter.
Borth . .	Western.
Cale Hall .	N. Western.
Dale Green .	Western.
ington . .	do.
on . . .	N. Western.
. . .	S. Eastern.
Sh Turn . .	N. Western.
. . .	Western.
Tra . . .	N. Western.
bury . . .	do.
ton . . .	S. Western.
Tice Green .	Eastern.
. . .	Western.
ridge, (Dosa) .	N. Eastern.
Kent . . .	S. Eastern.
H Heath . .	do.
. . .	do.
a . . .	N. Eastern.
estone . .	do.
Satish . . .	Western.
Whiton . .	S. Eastern.
. . .	N. Eastern.

TABLE OF DISTRICTS.	
Name.	Latitude.
EASTERN CENTRAL DISTRICT	E. C.
WESTERN CENTRAL DISTRICT	W. C.
NORTHERN DISTRICT . . .	N.
NORTH-EASTERN DISTRICT . .	N. E.
EASTERN DISTRICT . . .	E.
SOUTH-EASTERN DISTRICT . .	S. E.
SOUTHERN DISTRICT . . .	S.
SOUTH-WESTERN DISTRICT . .	S. W.
WESTERN DISTRICT . . .	W.
NORTH-WESTERN DISTRICT . .	N. W.

Names of Places.	Districts.
Madge Hill . . .	Western.
Maiden . . .	Southern.
Maiden . . .	Southern.
Mill Hill . . .	N. Western.
Mincham . . .	Southern.
Morden . . .	do.
Mortlake . . .	S. Western.
Northingham . .	S. Eastern.
Marwell Hill . .	Northern.
Neenden . . .	N. Western.
New Barnet . . .	Northern.
New Cross . . .	S. Eastern.
New Ears . . .	do.
New Malden . . .	S. Western.
Nochton . . .	S. Eastern.
North . . .	S. Western.
North End, (Pal- lance) . . .	S. Western.
North End, (Ham- psire) . . .	N. Western.
North Hyde . . .	Western.
Norholt . . .	do.
Norwood, (Mid- dsex) . . .	do.
Norwood, (Sus- sex) . . .	Southern.
Notting Hill . .	Western.
Norwood . . .	S. Eastern.
Old Charlton . .	do.
Old Ford . . .	Eastern.

Palmer's Green .	Northern.
Parson's Green .	S. Western.
Peacham . . .	S. Eastern.
Penge . . . .	do.
Perrisville . .	N. Western.
Peterham . . .	S. Western.
Pinelaw, (Eozes)	Eastern.
Pinelaw, (Kent)	S. Eastern.
Pischoet . . . .	Eastern.
Pleasanton . .	S. Eastern.
Ponders' End .	Northern.
Portland Town .	N. Western.
Putter's Bar . .	Northern.
Preston . . . .	N. Western.
Pulney . . . .	S. Western.
Queen's Elm . .	do.
Ridgaham . . .	Eastern.
Richmond . . .	S. Western.
Roehampton . .	do.
Romford . . . .	Eastern.
Rose Hill . . .	S. Western.
Rothesay Green .	S. Eastern.

St. Mary's Cray	do.
St. John's Wood	N. Western.
St. Paul's Cray	S. Eastern.
Sennattage	Western.
Sewardstone	N. Eastern.
Shacklewell	do.
Shepherd's Bush	Western.
Shirley	Southern.
Shooter's Hill	S. Eastern.
Sidcup	do.
Smallbury Green	Western.
Snaresbrook	N. Eastern.
Southall	Western.
Southborough	S. Eastern.
South End, (Eltham)	do.
South End, (Lewisham)	do.
South End, (Sydenham)	do.
Stratford	Northern.
Stratford Park	Western.
Stratford Hill	Northern.
Stratford	N. Western.
Strach Green	Western.
Stockwell	Southern.

Stoke Newington	Northern.
Strand-on-the-	
Green . . . .	Western.
Stratford . . .	East.
Streatham . .	North.
Sudbury . . . .	N. Western.
Sunbury . . . .	S. Western.
Surrey . . . .	do.
Sutton (Middlesex)	Western.
Sutton (Surrey)	Southern.
Sydenham . . .	S. Eastern.
Teddington . .	S. Western.
Thobalds . . .	Northern.
Thornton Heath	Southern.
Tooting . . . .	do.
Tottenham . .	Northern.
Totteridge . .	do.
Ternham Green	Western.
Trickham . . .	S. Western.
Upton, (Essex)	Eastern.
Upton, (Kent)	S. Eastern.

Walden	do	Southern.
Walham Green	S.	Western.
Walington	do	Southern.
Walshaw Cross	do	Northern.
Walshawmaw	do	N. Eastern.
Walworth	do	Southern.
Walworth	do	Southern.
Wantland	do	N. Eastern.
Wellington	do	S. Eastern.
Wemby	do	N. Western.
Westemore	do	S. Western.
Weston (Ham- psire)	do	N. Western.
West Ham	do	Eastern.
West Ham Abbey	do	do
West Ham Hill	do	Southern.
Wharfedale	do	Northern.
Whip's Cross	do	N. Eastern.
Whitechapel	do	N. Western.
Whitton	do	S. Western.
Whitton (East)	do	S. Eastern.
Whitton (West)	do	do
Whitton (Krat)	do	do
Wilcozen	do	N. Western.
Wimbolden	do	S. Western.
Wimborne Hill	do	Southern.
Wimborne Hill	do	N. Eastern.
Woodfield Bridge	do	do
Wood Green	do	Northern.
Woolwich	do	S. Eastern.
Worton	do	Western.